

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5198**

Chapter 17, Laws of 2021

67th Legislature  
2021 Regular Session

AMBULANCES IN RURAL AREAS--DRIVER TRAINING

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 25, 2021

Passed by the Senate February 3, 2021  
Yeas 48 Nays 1

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 24, 2021  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

Laurie Jinkins

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved April 7, 2021 3:43 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5198** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

BRAD HENDRICKSON

**Secretary**

FILED

April 7, 2021

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5198**

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Passed Legislature - 2021 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Schoesler, Dozier, Honeyford, King, Short, and Warnick

Read first time 01/13/21. Referred to Committee on Housing & Local Government.

1       AN ACT Relating to personnel restrictions on ambulances in rural  
2 areas; and amending RCW 18.73.150.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4       **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.73.150 and 2017 c 70 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6       (1)(a) Any ambulance operated as such shall operate with  
7 sufficient personnel for adequate patient care, at least one of whom  
8 shall be an emergency medical technician under standards promulgated  
9 by the secretary. The emergency medical technician shall have  
10 responsibility for its operation and for the care of patients both  
11 before they are placed aboard the vehicle and during transit. If  
12 there are two or more emergency medical technicians operating the  
13 ambulance, a nondriving medical technician shall be in command of the  
14 vehicle. The emergency medical technician in command of the vehicle  
15 shall be in the patient compartment and in attendance to the patient.

16       (b) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the  
17 driver of the ambulance shall have at least a certificate of advance  
18 first aid qualification recognized by the secretary pursuant to RCW  
19 18.73.120 unless there are at least two certified emergency medical  
20 technicians in attendance of the patient, in which case the driver  
21 shall not be required to have such certificate.

1           (2) With approval from the department, an ambulance service  
2 established by volunteer or municipal corporations, or by an  
3 association made up entirely of two or more municipalities, in a  
4 rural area with insufficient personnel may use a driver without any  
5 medical or first aid training so long as the driver is at least  
6 eighteen years old, successfully passes a background check issued or  
7 approved by the department, possesses a valid driver's license with  
8 no restrictions, is accompanied by a nondriving emergency medical  
9 technician while operating the ambulance during a response or  
10 transport of a patient, and only provides medical care to patients to  
11 the level that they are trained.

Passed by the Senate February 3, 2021.

Passed by the House March 24, 2021.

Approved by the Governor April 7, 2021.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 7, 2021.

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