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3 SUBSTITUTE FOR HB141
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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, emergency medical
9 services personnel are subject to regulation by the
10 State Board of Health.

11 This bill would authorize the State Board of
12 Health to establish and administer a community
13 paramedicine program that authorizes paramedics to
14 provide certain services to patients in certain
15 circumstances.

16 This bill would require the State Board of
17 Health to adopt rules.

18 This bill would also revise definitions,
19 including definitions for services provided by
20 emergency medical services personnel.
21

22 A BILL
23 TO BE ENTITLED
24 AN ACT
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26 Relating to emergency medical services; to amend
27 Section 22-18-1, Code of Alabama 1975, and to add Section

1 22-18-10 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to authorize the State
2 Board of Health to establish and administer a community
3 paramedicine program that allows paramedics to provide certain
4 services to patients; to authorize rulemaking; and to revise
5 definitions.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

7 Section 1. Section 22-18-1, Code of Alabama 1975, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "§22-18-1.

10 "For the purposes of this article, the following
11 terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by
12 this section:

13 "(1) ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN. Any
14 ~~person~~ individual who is an emergency medical services
15 personnel and is 18 years of age or older, and who satisfies
16 all of the following:

17 "a. Has successfully completed the advanced
18 emergency medical technician course of instruction, or its
19 equivalent, as approved by the ~~State Board of Health~~ board.

20 "b. Has passed the state Advanced EMT examination,
21 as well as having met the requirements for becoming a licensed
22 emergency medical technician.

23 "c. Has been granted a license by the ~~State Board of~~
24 ~~Health~~ board.

25 "(2) ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS). The treatment of
26 potentially life-threatening medical emergencies through the
27 use of invasive medical techniques specified as advanced life

1 support techniques by the ~~Board of Health~~ board, which
2 ordinarily would be performed or provided by licensed
3 physicians, but which may be performed by emergency medical
4 service personnel during emergencies under constraints
5 specified by rule of the board.

6 "(3) AIR AMBULANCE. An aircraft that is intended to
7 be used for and is maintained or operated for transportation
8 to a medical care facility of persons who are sick or injured.
9 For the purposes of this chapter, fixed-wing aircraft that do
10 not conduct scene flights shall not be considered air
11 ambulances.

12 "(4) BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS). Prehospital care
13 involving non-invasive life support measures as specified by
14 the board.

15 "(5) BOARD or BOARD OF HEALTH. The State Board of
16 Health.

17 "(6) COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC. An individual who is an
18 emergency medical services personnel and is 18 years of age or
19 older, and who satisfies all of the following:

20 "a. Is currently licensed as a paramedic.

21 "b. Has at least two years of full-time service as a
22 paramedic.

23 "c. Has successfully completed a community paramedic
24 training program from an accredited college or university
25 approved by the board.

1 "d. Has passed the state community paramedic
2 examination and has met the requirements for becoming a
3 licensed community paramedic.

4 "e. Has been granted a license by the board.

5 "(7) COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM. The provision
6 of episodic care, patient evaluation, advice, and treatment
7 directed at preventing or improving a particular medical
8 condition, within the scope of practice of the emergency
9 medical services personnel.

10 "(8) DEFINITIVE CARE FACILITY. A facility that has
11 the capability to render care to conclusively manage a
12 patient's current medical condition. The term includes, but is
13 not limited to, urgent care facilities, family practice
14 facilities, doctor's offices, and emergency departments.

15 ~~"(6)(9)~~ DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Public
16 Health.

17 ~~"(7)(10)~~ EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS). A system
18 of coordinated ~~response to provide prehospital emergency aid~~
19 ~~and medical assistance from primary response to definitive~~
20 ~~care, involving personnel trained in the rescue,~~
21 ~~stabilization, transportation, and treatment of sick or~~
22 ~~injured persons~~ medical assistance and care provided by
23 emergency medical services personnel, including:

24 "a. The transportation and medical care provided to
25 sick or injured individuals before arrival at a definitive
26 care facility.

1 "b. Continuation of care within a definitive care
2 facility subject to the approval from that facility.

3 "c. Integrated medical care with the oversight of a
4 medical director.

5 ~~(8)~~ (11) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL (EMSP).

6 The collective term used to refer to ~~licensed emergency~~
7 ~~medical technicians, emergency medical technicians~~
8 ~~intermediate, advanced emergency medical technicians,~~
9 ~~paramedics, and any level of licensure as recognized by the~~
10 all recognized National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
11 for individuals levels of personnel licensed by the board, who
12 have met all primary and renewal educational requirements, and
13 who provide emergency or non-emergency medical services or who
14 initiate immediate lifesaving care within the level of their
15 scope of practice and in accordance with the applicable EMS
16 Patient Care Protocols.

17 ~~(9)~~ (12) EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT). Any
18 person An individual who is an emergency medical services
19 personnel and is 18 years of age or older, and who satisfies
20 all of the following:

21 "a. Has successfully completed the basic emergency
22 medical technician course of instruction, or its equivalent,
23 as approved by the ~~Board of Health~~ board.

24 "b. Has passed the state EMT examination.

25 "c. Has been granted a license by the ~~Board of~~
26 Health board.

1 "(13) EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-INTERMEDIATE. An
2 individual who is an emergency medical services personnel and
3 is 18 years of age or older, and who, prior to December 31,
4 2002, satisfies all of the following:

5 "a. Has successfully completed the intermediate
6 emergency medical technician course of instruction, or its
7 equivalent, as approved by the board.

8 "b. Has passed the state EMT Intermediate
9 examination and has met the requirements for becoming a
10 licensed emergency medical technician.

11 "c. Has been granted a license by the board.

12 "~~(10)~~ (14) GROUND AMBULANCE. A motor vehicle that is
13 intended to be used for and is maintained or operated for
14 transportation to a medical care facility of ~~persons~~
15 individuals who are sick or injured.

16 "~~(11) LICENSED EMERGENCY MEDICAL~~
17 ~~TECHNICIAN-INTERMEDIATE. Any person 18 years of age or older~~
18 ~~who, prior to December 31, 2002, satisfies all of the~~
19 ~~following:~~

20 "~~a. Has successfully completed the intermediate~~
21 ~~emergency medical technician course of instruction, or its~~
22 ~~equivalent, as approved by the Board of Health.~~

23 "~~b. Has passed the state EMT Intermediate~~
24 ~~examination, as well as having met the requirements for~~
25 ~~becoming a licensed emergency medical technician.~~

26 "~~c. has been granted a license by the Board of~~
27 ~~Health.~~

1 "~~(12)~~(15) NON-TRANSPORT VEHICLE. A vehicle operated
2 with the intent to provide BLS or ALS stabilization on scene,
3 but not intended to transport a patient to a medical care
4 facility.

5 "~~(13)~~(16) PARAMEDIC. Any ~~person~~ individual who is an
6 emergency medical services personnel and is 18 years of age or
7 older, and who has successfully completed the paramedic course
8 of instruction, or its equivalent, as approved by the ~~Board of~~
9 Health board, and passed the state EMT-paramedic examination,
10 and who has been granted a license by the ~~Board of Health~~
11 board.

12 "~~(14)~~(17) PATIENT. An individual who receives or
13 requests medical care, or for whom medical care is requested,
14 because the individual is sick or injured.

15 "~~(15)~~(18) PHYSICIAN. An individual licensed to
16 practice medicine or osteopathy by the Medical Licensure
17 Commission of Alabama.

18 "(19) PROGRAM MEDICAL DIRECTOR. A physician who has
19 completed the approved EMS Medical Director course and
20 provides medical direction and oversight to emergency medical
21 services personnel.

22 "~~(16)~~(20) PROVIDER SERVICE. An organization, whether
23 public or private, which provides transport or non-transport
24 emergency medical services.

25 "~~(17)~~(21) SCENE FLIGHT. The flight of an air
26 ambulance to the physical location of a sick or injured ~~person~~
27 individual.

1 "~~(18)~~(22) TRANSPORT VEHICLE. An air or ground
2 ambulance."

3 Section 2. Section 22-18-10 is added to the Code of
4 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

5 §22-18-10.

6 (a) The board may establish and administer a
7 community paramedicine program to authorize paramedics to
8 provide community paramedic services under the direction and
9 oversight of the program medical director, as further provided
10 in this section.

11 (b) The criteria for which an individual is eligible
12 as a patient for a community paramedicine program includes,
13 but is not limited to, any of the following:

14 (1) The individual has been discharged from a
15 definitive care facility, and has declined or is not eligible
16 for home health or hospice services.

17 (2) The individual has been identified as a patient
18 for whom community paramedic services would likely prevent
19 admission or readmission to, or allow discharge from, a
20 definitive care facility.

21 (3) The individual has been referred to the
22 community paramedicine program to receive preventive services.

23 (c) Community paramedic services include, but are
24 not limited to:

25 (1) Coordination of community services.

26 (2) Chronic disease monitoring and education.

27 (3) Health assessment.

1 (4) Hospital discharge follow-up care.

2 (5) Laboratory specimen collection.

3 (6) Medication compliance.

4 (d) A community paramedic shall document and submit
5 all services provided in accordance with the applicable
6 patient care reporting rules or other rules as prescribed by
7 the board.

8 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
9 allow a community paramedic to practice medicine or surgery,
10 to make a diagnosis, or to prescribe drugs.

11 (f) The board shall adopt rules to implement this
12 section, including, but not limited to, the length of time
13 after discharge a patient is eligible for community paramedic
14 services.

15 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
16 first day of the third month following its passage and
17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.