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ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6033

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State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators West and Johnson

Read first time 01/13/92. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to emergency service medical personnel; amending  
2 RCW 18.71.205, 18.73.130, 18.73.140, and 18.73.150; and repealing RCW  
3 18.73.120.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71.205 and 1990 c 269 s 18 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) The secretary of the department of health, in conjunction with  
8 the advice and assistance of the emergency medical services licensing  
9 and certification advisory committee as prescribed in RCW 18.73.050,  
10 and the board of medical examiners, shall prescribe:

11 (a) Minimum standards and performance requirements for the  
12 certification and recertification of physician's trained intravenous  
13 therapy technicians, airway management technicians, and mobile  
14 intensive care paramedics; and

1 (b) Procedures for certification, recertification, and  
2 decertification of physician's trained intravenous therapy technicians,  
3 airway management technicians, and mobile intensive care paramedics.

4 (2) Initial certification shall be for a period of (~~two~~) three  
5 years.

6 (3) Recertification shall be granted upon proof of continuing  
7 satisfactory performance and education, and shall be for a period of  
8 (~~two~~) three years.

9 (4) As used in chapters 18.71 and 18.73 RCW, "approved medical  
10 program director" means a person who:

11 (a) Is licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to  
12 chapter 18.71 RCW or osteopathy and surgery pursuant to chapter 18.57  
13 RCW; and

14 (b) Is qualified and knowledgeable in the administration and  
15 management of emergency care and services; and

16 (c) Is so certified by the department of health for a county, group  
17 of counties, or cities with populations over four hundred thousand in  
18 coordination with the recommendations of the local medical community  
19 and local emergency medical services and trauma care council.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.73.130 and 1990 c 269 s 25 are each amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 An ambulance operator, ambulance director, aid vehicle operator or  
23 aid director may not operate a service in the state of Washington  
24 without holding a license for such operation, issued by the secretary  
25 when such operation is consistent with the state-wide and regional  
26 emergency medical services and trauma care plans established pursuant  
27 to chapter 70.168 RCW, indicating the general area to be served and the  
28 number of vehicles to be used, with the following exceptions:

29 (1) The United States government;

1 (2) Ambulance operators and ambulance directors providing service  
2 in other states when bringing patients into this state;

3 (3) Owners of businesses in which ambulance or aid vehicles are  
4 used exclusively on company property but occasionally in emergencies  
5 may transport patients to hospitals not on company property; and

6 (4) Operators of vehicles pressed into service for transportation  
7 of patients in emergencies when licensed ambulances are not available  
8 or cannot meet overwhelming demand.

9 The license shall be valid for a period of (~~three~~) two years and  
10 shall be renewed on request provided the holder has consistently  
11 complied with the regulations of the department and the department of  
12 licensing and provided also that the needs of the area served have been  
13 met satisfactorily. The license shall not be transferable.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.73.140 and 1987 c 214 s 11 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 The secretary shall issue an ambulance or aid vehicle license for  
17 each vehicle so designated. The license shall be for a period of  
18 (~~one~~) two years and may be reissued on expiration if the vehicle and  
19 its equipment meet requirements in force at the time of expiration of  
20 the license period. The license may be revoked if the ambulance or aid  
21 vehicle is found to be operating in violation of the regulations  
22 promulgated by the department or without required equipment. The  
23 license shall be terminated automatically if the vehicle is sold or  
24 transferred to the control of anyone not currently licensed as an  
25 ambulance or aid vehicle operator or director. The license number  
26 shall be prominently displayed on each vehicle.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.73.150 and 1979 ex.s. c 261 s 15 are each amended  
28 to read as follows:

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

11 The driver of the ambulance shall have at least a certificate of  
12 advance first aid qualification recognized by the secretary pursuant to  
13 RCW 18.73.120 unless there are at least two certified emergency medical  
14 technicians in attendance of the patient whereby a noncertified  
15 individual may drive the ambulance.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. RCW 18.73.120 and 1979 ex.s. c 261 s 12  
17 & 1973 1st ex.s. c 208 s 12 are each repealed.