

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 1237**

Chapter 193, Laws of 2005

59th Legislature  
2005 Regular Session

PATIENT TRANSPORTATION--BANANA CARTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/05

Passed by the House March 30, 2005  
Yeas 96 Nays 1

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 13, 2005  
Yeas 45 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Approved April 26, 2005.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1237** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

RICHARD NAFZIGER

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 26, 2005 - 2:24 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE BILL 1237

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Passed Legislature - 2005 Regular Session

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Newhouse, Cody, Clements, Bailey, Roach, Morrell, Lovick, Simpson, Murray, Chase, Kagi and Wallace

Read first time 01/19/2005. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to specialized commercial vehicles used for patient  
2 transportation; amending RCW 18.73.030; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that requiring all  
5 patients who need to travel in a prone or supine position but are  
6 medically stable, to be transported by ambulance can be overly  
7 restrictive to individuals with disabilities. These individuals  
8 frequently travel by means of reclining wheelchairs or devices commonly  
9 referred to as banana carts. Expanding travel options for these  
10 individuals will give them greater opportunities for mobility and  
11 reduce their costs of travel.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.73.030 and 2000 c 93 s 16 are each amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 Unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, the  
15 following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall have the  
16 meanings indicated.

17 (1) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health.

18 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

1 (3) "Committee" means the emergency medical services licensing and  
2 certification advisory committee.

3 (4) "Ambulance" means a ground or air vehicle designed and used to  
4 transport the ill and injured and to provide personnel, facilities, and  
5 equipment to treat patients before and during transportation.

6 (5) "Aid vehicle" means a vehicle used to carry aid equipment and  
7 individuals trained in first aid or emergency medical procedure.

8 (6) "Emergency medical technician" means a person who is authorized  
9 by the secretary to render emergency medical care pursuant to RCW  
10 18.73.081.

11 (7) "Ambulance service" means an organization that operates one or  
12 more ambulances.

13 (8) "Aid service" means an organization that operates one or more  
14 aid vehicles.

15 (9) "Emergency medical service" means medical treatment and care  
16 which may be rendered at the scene of any medical emergency or while  
17 transporting any patient in an ambulance to an appropriate medical  
18 facility, including ambulance transportation between medical  
19 facilities.

20 (10) "Communications system" means a radio and landline network  
21 which provides rapid public access, coordinated central dispatching of  
22 services, and coordination of personnel, equipment, and facilities in  
23 an emergency medical services and trauma care system.

24 (11) "Prehospital patient care protocols" means the written  
25 procedure adopted by the emergency medical services medical program  
26 director which direct the out-of-hospital emergency care of the  
27 emergency patient which includes the trauma care patient. These  
28 procedures shall be based upon the assessment of the patient's medical  
29 needs and what treatment will be provided for emergency conditions.  
30 The protocols shall meet or exceed statewide minimum standards  
31 developed by the department in rule as authorized in chapter 70.168  
32 RCW.

33 (12) "Patient care procedures" means written operating guidelines  
34 adopted by the regional emergency medical services and trauma care  
35 council, in consultation with the local emergency medical services and  
36 trauma care councils, emergency communication centers, and the  
37 emergency medical services medical program director, in accordance with  
38 statewide minimum standards. The patient care procedures shall

1 identify the level of medical care personnel to be dispatched to an  
2 emergency scene, procedures for triage of patients, the level of trauma  
3 care facility to first receive the patient, and the name and location  
4 of other trauma care facilities to receive the patient should an  
5 interfacility transfer be necessary. Procedures on interfacility  
6 transfer of patients shall be consistent with the transfer procedures  
7 in chapter 70.170 RCW.

8 (13) "Emergency medical services medical program director" means a  
9 person who is an approved medical program director as defined by RCW  
10 18.71.205(4).

11 (14) "Council" means the local or regional emergency medical  
12 services and trauma care council as authorized under chapter 70.168  
13 RCW.

14 (15) "Basic life support" means noninvasive emergency medical  
15 services requiring basic medical treatment skills as defined in chapter  
16 18.73 RCW.

17 (16) "Advanced life support" means invasive emergency medical  
18 services requiring advanced medical treatment skills as defined by  
19 chapter 18.71 RCW.

20 (17) "First responder" means a person who is authorized by the  
21 secretary to render emergency medical care as defined by RCW 18.73.081.

22 (18) "Stretcher" means a cart designed to serve as a litter for the  
23 transportation of a patient in a prone or supine position as is  
24 commonly used in the ambulance industry, such as wheeled stretchers,  
25 portable stretchers, stair chairs, solid backboards, scoop stretchers,  
26 basket stretchers, or flexible stretchers. The term does not include  
27 personal mobility aids that recline at an angle or remain at a flat  
28 position, that are owned or leased for a period of at least one week by  
29 the individual using the equipment or the individual's guardian or  
30 representative, such as wheelchairs, personal gurneys, or banana carts.

Passed by the House March 30, 2005.

Passed by the Senate April 13, 2005.

Approved by the Governor April 26, 2005.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 26, 2005.