

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1893

67th Legislature
2022 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 7, 2022
Yeas 92 Nays 6

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 3, 2022
Yeas 47 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1893** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1893

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2022 Regular Session

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2022 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Donaghy, Riccelli, Leavitt, Simmons, Slatter, Tharinger, Berg, Taylor, Frame, Macri, Harris-Talley, and Pollet; by request of Department of Health)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing emergency medical technicians to
2 provide medical evaluation, testing, and vaccines outside of an
3 emergency in response to a public health agency request; amending RCW
4 18.73.030, 18.73.081, and 18.71.205; and adding a new section to
5 chapter 18.71 RCW.

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

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.73.030 and 2021 c 69 s 1 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
10 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

11 (1) "Advanced life support" means invasive emergency medical
12 services requiring advanced medical treatment skills as defined by
13 chapter 18.71 RCW.

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

16 (3) "Aid vehicle" means a vehicle used to carry aid equipment and
17 individuals trained in first aid or emergency medical procedure.

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

1 (5) "Ambulance service" means an organization that operates one
2 or more ambulances.

3 (6) "Basic life support" means noninvasive emergency medical
4 services requiring basic medical treatment skills as defined in this
5 chapter.

6 (7) "Collaborative medical care" means medical treatment and care
7 provided pursuant to agreements with local, regional, or state public
8 health agencies to control and prevent the spread of communicable
9 diseases which is rendered separately from emergency medical service.

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

14 (~~(8)~~) (9) "Council" means the local or regional emergency
15 medical services and trauma care council as authorized under chapter
16 70.168 RCW.

17 (~~(9)~~) (10) "Department" means the department of health.

18 (~~(10)~~) (11) "Emergency medical service" means medical treatment
19 and care which may be rendered at the scene of any medical emergency
20 or while transporting any patient in an ambulance to an appropriate
21 medical facility, including ambulance transportation between medical
22 facilities.

23 (~~(11)~~) (12) "Emergency medical services medical program
24 director" means a person who is an approved medical program director
25 as defined by RCW 18.71.205(4).

26 (~~(12)~~) (13) "Emergency medical technician" means a person who
27 is authorized by the secretary to render emergency medical care
28 pursuant to RCW 18.73.081 (~~(e)~~), under the responsible supervision
29 and direction of an approved medical program director, (~~(e~~
30 ~~participate)~~) which may include participating in an emergency
31 services supervisory organization or a community assistance referral
32 and education services program established under RCW 35.21.930, or
33 providing collaborative medical care if the participation or
34 provision of collaborative medical care does not exceed the
35 participant's training and certification.

36 (~~(13)~~) (14) "Emergency services supervisory organization" means
37 an entity that is authorized by the secretary to use certified
38 emergency medical services personnel to provide medical evaluation or
39 initial treatment, or both, to sick or injured people, while in the
40 course of duties with the organization for on-site medical care prior

1 to any necessary activation of emergency medical services. Emergency
2 services supervisory organizations include law enforcement agencies,
3 disaster management organizations, search and rescue operations,
4 diversion centers, and businesses with organized industrial safety
5 teams.

6 ~~((14))~~ (15) "First responder" means a person who is authorized
7 by the secretary to render emergency medical care as defined by RCW
8 18.73.081.

9 ~~((15))~~ (16) "Patient care procedures" means written operating
10 guidelines adopted by the regional emergency medical services and
11 trauma care council, in consultation with the local emergency medical
12 services and trauma care councils, emergency communication centers,
13 and the emergency medical services medical program director, in
14 accordance with statewide minimum standards. The patient care
15 procedures shall identify the level of medical care personnel to be
16 dispatched to an emergency scene, procedures for triage of patients,
17 the level of trauma care facility to first receive the patient, and
18 the name and location of other trauma care facilities to receive the
19 patient should an interfacility transfer be necessary. Procedures on
20 interfacility transfer of patients shall be consistent with the
21 transfer procedures in chapter 70.170 RCW.

22 ~~((16))~~ (17) "Prehospital patient care protocols" means the
23 written procedure adopted by the emergency medical services medical
24 program director which direct the out-of-hospital emergency care of
25 the emergency patient which includes the trauma care patient. These
26 procedures shall be based upon the assessment of the patient's
27 medical needs and what treatment will be provided for emergency
28 conditions. The protocols shall meet or exceed statewide minimum
29 standards developed by the department in rule as authorized in
30 chapter 70.168 RCW.

31 ~~((17))~~ (18) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department
32 of health.

33 ~~((18))~~ (19) "Stretcher" means a cart designed to serve as a
34 litter for the transportation of a patient in a prone or supine
35 position as is commonly used in the ambulance industry, such as
36 wheeled stretchers, portable stretchers, stair chairs, solid
37 backboards, scoop stretchers, basket stretchers, or flexible
38 stretchers. The term does not include personal mobility aids that
39 recline at an angle or remain at a flat position, that are owned or
40 leased for a period of at least one week by the individual using the

1 equipment or the individual's guardian or representative, such as
2 wheelchairs, personal gurneys, or banana carts.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) Emergency medical services providers who are currently
6 licensed or certified in another state or who hold a current
7 certification from a national certifying agency approved by the
8 department are eligible for a Washington provisional emergency
9 services provider certification.

10 (2) To be eligible for a Washington provisional emergency
11 services provider certification, the applicant shall:

12 (a) Be currently licensed or certified in another state and be in
13 good standing with the emergency medical services board of that state
14 or hold a current emergency medical services provider certification
15 from a national certifying agency approved by the department;

16 (b) Be employed or have a valid employment offer from a
17 Washington emergency medical services agency; and

18 (c) Be approved for a provisional status from the county medical
19 program director in which the applicant is or will be employed.

20 (3) If the employer or host agency has:

21 (a) Fewer than 25 employees holding a current emergency medical
22 technician or paramedic certification or license, up to 20 percent of
23 those employees, rounded to the next whole number, may practice under
24 a provisional certification; or

25 (b) Twenty-five or more employees holding a current emergency
26 medical technician or paramedic certification or license, up to 10
27 percent of those employees, rounded to the next whole number, may
28 practice under a provisional certification.

29 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.73.081 and 1993 c 254 s 1 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 In addition to other duties prescribed by law, the secretary
32 shall:

33 (1) Prescribe minimum requirements for:

34 (a) Ambulance, air ambulance, and aid vehicles and equipment;

35 (b) Ambulance and aid services; and

36 (c) Minimum emergency communication equipment;

37 (2) Adopt procedures for services that fail to perform in
38 accordance with minimum requirements;

1 (3) Prescribe minimum standards for first responder and emergency
2 medical technician training including:

3 (a) Adoption of curriculum and period of certification;

4 (b) Procedures for provisional certification, certification,
5 recertification, decertification, or modification of certificates;

6 (c) Adoption of requirements for ongoing training and evaluation,
7 as approved by the county medical program director, to include
8 appropriate evaluation for individual knowledge and skills. The first
9 responder, emergency medical technician, or emergency medical
10 services provider agency may elect a program of continuing education
11 and a written and practical examination instead of meeting the
12 ongoing training and evaluation requirements;

13 (d) Procedures for reciprocity with other states or national
14 certifying agencies;

15 (e) Review and approval or disapproval of training programs; and

16 (f) Adoption of standards for numbers and qualifications of
17 instructional personnel required for first responder and emergency
18 medical technician training programs;

19 (4) Prescribe minimum requirements for liability insurance to be
20 carried by licensed services except that this requirement shall not
21 apply to public bodies; and

22 (5) Certify emergency medical program directors.

23 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.71.205 and 2015 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read
24 as follows:

25 (1) The secretary of the department of health shall prescribe:

26 (a) Practice parameters, training standards for, and levels of,
27 physician's trained advanced emergency medical technicians and
28 paramedics;

29 (b) Minimum standards and performance requirements for the
30 certification and recertification of physician's trained advanced
31 emergency medical technicians and paramedics; and

32 (c) Procedures for provisional certification, certification,
33 recertification, and decertification of physician's trained advanced
34 emergency medical technicians and paramedics.

35 (2) Initial certification shall be for a period established by
36 the secretary pursuant to RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

37 (3) Recertification shall be granted upon proof of continuing
38 satisfactory performance and education, and shall be for a period
39 established by the secretary pursuant to RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

1 (4) As used in this chapter and chapter 18.73 RCW, "approved
2 medical program director" means a person who:

3 (a) Is licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to this
4 chapter or osteopathic medicine and surgery pursuant to chapter 18.57
5 RCW; and

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

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

13 (5) The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW, governs
14 uncertified practice, the issuance and denial of certificates, and
15 the disciplining of certificate holders under this section. The
16 secretary shall be the disciplining authority under this section.
17 Disciplinary action shall be initiated against a person credentialed
18 under this chapter in a manner consistent with the responsibilities
19 and duties of the medical program director under whom such person is
20 responsible.

21 (6) Such activities of physician's trained advanced emergency
22 medical technicians and paramedics shall be limited to actions taken
23 under the express written or oral order of medical program directors
24 and shall not be construed at any time to include freestanding or
25 nondirected actions, for actions not presenting an emergency or life-
26 threatening condition, except nonemergency activities performed
27 pursuant to subsection (7) of this section.

28 (7) Nothing in this section prohibits a physician's trained
29 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, acting under the
30 responsible supervision and direction of an approved medical program
31 director, from participating in a community assistance referral and
32 education services program established under RCW 35.21.930 if such
33 participation does not exceed the participant's training and
34 certification.

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