

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 193

SESSION: 2012 Regular Session

TOPIC: Emergency medical personnel

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Overview

This act updates terminology related to individuals who are registered or certified to provide emergency medical services. It expands the types of conduct for which the board can take disciplinary action. The act specifies that education standards must meet the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's National EMS Education Standards.

- 1** **Advanced life support.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 1b. Updates terminology by striking "emergency medical technician-paramedic curriculum" and inserting "paramedic standards."
- 2** **Ambulance service personnel.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 3a. Updates terminology.
- 3** **Basic airway management.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 4a. Updates the definition of "basic airway management."
- 4** **Basic life support.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 4b. Updates terminology.
- 5** **Emergency medical technician or EMT.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 5c. Updates terminology.
- 6** **Advanced emergency medical technician or AEMT.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 5d. Changes the name for this group of credentialed individuals from "emergency medical technician-intermediate" to "advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT)"
- 7** **Paramedic.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 5e. Changes the name for this group of credentialed individuals from "emergency medical technician-paramedic (EMT-P)" to "paramedic."
- 8** **Community paramedic.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 5f. Changes the name from "emergency medical technician-community paramedic (EMT-CP)" to "community paramedic."
- 9** **Emergency medical responder group.** Amends §144E.001, by adding subd. 5g. Defines this as a group of certified or registered personnel who respond to medical emergencies and have a medical

director.

- 10 Emergency medical responder or EMR.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 6. Changes "first responder" to "emergency medical responder." Adds that an emergency medical responder can be on the roster of a Minnesota licensed ambulance service.
- 11 In-service ambulance.** Amends §144E.001, by adding subd. 6a. Defines "in-service ambulance" as an ambulance licensed by the EMSRB and in compliance with statutes and rules related to ambulance service.
- 12 Intravenous infusion.** Amends §144E.001, by adding subd. 6b. Adds the definition of "intravenous infusion."
- 13 Intravenous therapy.** Amends §144E.001, by adding subd. 6c. Adds the definition of intravenous therapy.
- 14 Level I trauma hospital.** Amends § 144E.001, by adding subdivision 6d. Adds the definition of level I trauma hospital.
- 15 Program medical director.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 11. Strikes the word "training" and inserts "education."
- 16 Education program coordinator.** Amends §144E.001, subd. 14. Specifies that the education curriculum must meet the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's National EMS Education Standards.
- 17 Membership.** Amends §144E.01, subd. 1. Makes technical changes to conform with a change in terminology.
- 18 Patient care.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 2. Updates terminology.
- 19 Basic life support.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 6. Updates terminology. Adds that basic life-support ambulance services are to use equipment within the licensure level of the ambulance service. Requires that personnel must be trained and that documentation must be maintained in the licensee's files.
- 20 Advanced life support.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 7. Updates terminology.
- 21 Specialized life support.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 9. Adds that a nurse or doctor who staffs a specialized ground life-support service must be an EMT.
- 22 Driver.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 10. Requires a driver to have a valid driver's license. Current law requires a current license.
- 23 Mutual aid agreement.** Amends §144E.101, subd. 12. Requires a formal, written mutual aid agreement to be the preplanned and organized response of for emergency medical services, personnel, and equipment when the local ambulance resources have been expended.
- 24 Equipment.** Amends §144E.103.

Subd. 1. General requirements. Requires every ambulance to carry commercially manufactured tourniquets. Strikes obsolete language.

Subd. 2a. Maintenance, sanitation, and testing of equipment, supplies, and drugs. Sets out the requirements for assuring that all equipment on an ambulance is in operating condition and stored and maintained within manufacturer's recommendations.

Subd. 4. Safety restraints. Requires ambulances to be equipped with shoulder harnesses.

Subd. 5. Communication equipment. Requires an ambulance to be equipped with a two-way radio programmed and operating according to the statewide radio board shared radio and communication plan or its equivalent as determined by the EMSRB.

- 25 Interfacility transfers.** Amends §144E.127, subd. 2. Updates terminology.
- 26 Responsibilities.** Amends §144E.265, subd. 2. Updates terminology.
- 27 Education programs.** Amends §144E.27, subd. 1. Updates terminology. Adds that the national education standards are entry level of knowledge and skills for emergency responders and that medical directors are authorized to expand that knowledge and skill set.
- 28 Registration.** Amends §144E.27, subd. 2. Changes terminology from "first responder" to "emergency medical responder." Provides that registration is valid for two years and expires on October 31. Current law has a rolling expiration date.
- 29 Registration dates.** Amends §144E.27, by adding subd. 2a. Sets out the expiration dates based on initial registration dates.
- 30 Renewal.** Amends §144E.27, subd. 3. Updates terminology.
- 31 Denial, suspension, revocation.** Amends 144E.27, subd. 5. Adds that the board may take action against a registrant who:
- violates a corrective action agreement or an order the board issued or can enforce;
 - violates a federal or state controlled substance law;
 - engages in unprofessional conduct or conduct that could harm the public;
 - practices with a lapsed or unexpired credential;
 - is subject to corrective or disciplinary action in another jurisdiction or by another regulatory authority;
 - engages in sexual conduct with a patient; or
 - makes a false statement or knowingly provides false information to the board, or fails to cooperate with a board investigation.
- 32 Medical response unit qualifications.** Amends §144E.275, subd. 3. Updates terminology.
- 33 Requirements.** Amends §144E.28, subd. 1. Updates terminology.
- 34 Denial, suspension, revocation.** Amends §144E.28, subd. 5. Allows the board to take action against or deny certification to an individual who:
- violates a corrective action agreement or an order the board issued or can enforce;
 - violates a federal or state controlled substance law;
 - engages in unprofessional conduct or conduct that could harm the public;
 - practices with a lapsed or unexpired credential;

- is subject to corrective or disciplinary action in another jurisdiction or by another regulatory authority;
- engages in sexual conduct with a patient; or
- makes a false statement or knowingly provides false information to the board, or fails to cooperate with a board investigation.

- 35 Renewal.** Amends §144E.28, subd. 7. Strikes specific continuing education requirements and updates terminology. Clarifies that continuing education requirements must meet the standards set by the U.S. Department of Transportation's EMS Education Standards.
- 36 Community paramedics.** Amends §144E.28, subd. 9. Updates terminology.
- 37 Instructor qualifications.** Amends §144E.283. Updates terminology and adds continuing education and credential requirements for emergency medical technician instructors.
- 38 Education programs.** Amends §144E.285. Updates terminology.
- 39 Examiner qualifications.** Amends §144E.286. Updates terminology. Requires examiners to be familiar with current out-of-hospital care.
- 40 Fees.** Amends §144E.29. Updates terminology.
- 41 Cooperation during investigation.** Amends §144E.30, subd. 3. Updates terminology.
- 42 Mandatory reporting.** Amends §144E.305, subd. 2. Updates terminology.
- 43 Correction order and fines.** Amends §144E.31. Updates terminology by striking "training" and inserting "education."
- 44 Review organization defined.** Amends §144E.32, subd. 2. Updates terminology.
- 45 Repayment for volunteer education.** Amends §144E.35, subd. 1. Updates terminology.
- 46 Program eligibility; qualified ambulance service personnel.** Amends § 144E.41. Requires that service verifications for the 12 months preceding June 30, must be submitted by August 1.
- 47 Funding for emergency medical services regions.** Amends §144E.52. Updates terminology by striking "first" and inserting "emergency medical."
- 48 Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance program service credit reporting.** Instructs the EMSRB to accept verification of service from specified personnel that occurred prior to June 30, 2010, if submitted to the EMSRB by August 1, 2012.
- 49 Revisor instruction.** Instructs the revisor to substitute the words "physician assistant" for "physician's assistant" wherever found in chapter 144E.
- 50 Repealer.** Repeals Minnesota Rules, parts 4690.0100, subparts 16 (intravenous infusion) and 17 (intravenous therapy), and 4690.1400 (maintenance, sanitation, and testing of equipment). The definitions of intravenous infusion and intravenous therapy are included in this bill and a new section on maintenance, sanitation, and testing of equipment is included in this bill.