

Subject Special transportation service (STS) regulations

Authors Tabke

Analyst Matt Burress, Legislative Analyst (matt.burress@house.mn)

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Overview

This bill modifies Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) regulation of special transportation service (STS) providers who receive state or federal funds. Among its changes, the bill modifies recordkeeping requirements, broadens situations where MnDOT may suspend or refuse to issue a certificate of compliance (which authorizes operation as an STS provider), and removes obsolete language. Effective August 1, 2020.

Background. Special transportation service serves people who are elderly or disabled and unable to use regular forms of transportation, and it includes nonemergency medical transportation services. The operating standards are administered by MnDOT and cover a number of areas, including vehicle maintenance and equipment, vehicle operation, driver qualifications and training, MnDOT inspections and auditing, and insurance. Various types of transportation are excluded from these regulations, such as ambulance service, public transit, and pupil transportation (although other state and federal regulations can apply).

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Vehicle and equipment safety; provider responsibilities.
Requires recordkeeping on STS trips performed. |
| 2 | Certification of special transportation service provider.
Authorizes MnDOT to refuse issuance of a certificate of compliance if an owner, controlling officer, or manager is not listed in the provider's active roster. (The active roster lists individuals who are determined eligible under a background check and are currently affiliated with the provider.) |

Section	Description
3	<p>Administrative penalties; loss of certificate of compliance.</p> <p>Paragraph (b) directs MnDOT to issue an order to an STS provider to cease permitting an individual to perform their job functions if the person is not on the provider's active roster.</p> <p>Paragraphs (d) and (e) provide for notices, suspension of a certificate of compliance, and contested cases, when a provider has not paid the annual decal fee.</p>
4	<p>Repealer.</p> <p>Repeals an obsolete phase-in provision on variances from the STS operating standards for nonemergency medical transportation providers.</p>



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