

HB417 INTRODUCED



1 BUMXQQ-1
2 By Representatives Pettus, Underwood, Shirey, Cole, Lee,
3 Clouse
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 02-May-23
6
7 2023 Regular Session



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a community paramedic is required to have successfully completed a community paramedic training program from an accredited college or university approved by the board.

This bill would remove the requirement of a college degree for licensure as a community paramedic and would prohibit the State Board of Health from requiring a college degree for licensure as a paramedic.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the State Board of Health and emergency medical services; to amend Section 22-18-1, Code of Alabama 1975, to delete the requirement of a college degree for licensure as a community paramedic; and to prohibit the State Board of Health from requiring a college degree for licensure as a paramedic.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 22-18-1 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:



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29 "§22-18-1

30 For the purposes of this article, the following terms
31 shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this
32 section:

33 (1) ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN. Any
34 individual who is an emergency medical services personnel, is
35 18 years of age or older, and who satisfies all of the
36 following:

37 a. Has successfully completed the advanced emergency
38 medical technician course of instruction, or its equivalent,
39 as approved by the board.

40 b. Has passed the state Advanced EMT examination, as
41 well as having met the requirements for becoming a licensed
42 emergency medical technician.

43 c. Has been granted a license by the board.

44 (2) ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS). The treatment of
45 potentially life-threatening medical emergencies through the
46 use of invasive medical techniques specified as advanced life
47 support techniques by the board, which ordinarily would be
48 performed or provided by licensed physicians, but which may be
49 performed by emergency medical service personnel during
50 emergencies under constraints specified by rule of the board.

51 (3) AIR AMBULANCE. An aircraft that is intended to be
52 used for and is maintained or operated for transportation to a
53 medical care facility of persons who are sick or injured. For
54 the purposes of this chapter, fixed-wing aircraft that do not
55 conduct scene flights shall not be considered air ambulances.

56 (4) BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS). Prehospital care



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57 involving non-invasive life support measures as specified by
58 the board.

59 (5) BOARD or BOARD OF HEALTH. The State Board of
60 Health.

61 (6) COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC. An individual who is an
62 emergency medical services personnel, is 18 years of age or
63 older, and who satisfies all of the following:

64 a. Is currently licensed as a paramedic.

65 b. Has at least two years of full-time service as a
66 paramedic.

67 ~~c. Has successfully completed a community paramedic~~
68 ~~training program from an accredited college or university~~
69 ~~approved by the board.~~

70 ~~d.~~c. Has passed the state community paramedic
71 examination and has met the requirements for becoming a
72 licensed community paramedic.

73 ~~e.~~d. Has been granted a license by the board.

74 (7) COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM. The provision of
75 episodic care, patient evaluation, advice, and treatment
76 directed at preventing or improving a particular medical
77 condition, within the scope of practice of the emergency
78 medical services personnel.

79 (8) DEFINITIVE CARE FACILITY. A facility that has the
80 capability to render care to conclusively manage a patient's
81 current medical condition. The term includes, but is not
82 limited to, urgent care facilities, family practice
83 facilities, doctor's offices, and emergency departments.

84 (9) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Public



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85 Health.

86 (10) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS). A system of
87 coordinated medical assistance and care provided by emergency
88 medical services personnel, including:

89 a. The transportation and medical care provided to sick
90 or injured individuals before arrival at a definitive care
91 facility.

92 b. Continuation of care within a definitive care
93 facility subject to the approval from that facility.

94 c. Integrated medical care with the oversight of a
95 medical director.

96 (11) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL (EMSP). The
97 collective term used to refer to all recognized National
98 Highway Traffic Safety Administration levels of personnel
99 licensed by the board, who have met all primary and renewal
100 educational requirements, and who provide emergency or
101 non-emergency medical services within the level of their scope
102 of practice and in accordance with the applicable EMS Patient
103 Care Protocols.

104 (12) EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT). An individual
105 who is an emergency medical services personnel, is 18 years of
106 age or older, and who satisfies all of the following:

107 a. Has successfully completed the basic emergency
108 medical technician course of instruction, or its equivalent,
109 as approved by the board.

110 b. Has passed the state EMT examination.

111 c. Has been granted a license by the board.

112 (13) EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-INTERMEDIATE. An



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113 individual who is an emergency medical services personnel, is
114 18 years of age or older, and who, prior to December 31, 2002,
115 satisfied all of the following:

116 a. Successfully completed the intermediate emergency
117 medical technician course of instruction, or its equivalent,
118 as approved by the board.

119 b. Passed the state EMT Intermediate examination and
120 has met the requirements for becoming a licensed emergency
121 medical technician.

122 c. Was granted a license by the board.

123 (14) GROUND AMBULANCE. A motor vehicle that is intended
124 to be used for and is maintained or operated for
125 transportation to a medical care facility of individuals who
126 are sick or injured.

127 (15) NON-TRANSPORT VEHICLE. A vehicle operated with the
128 intent to provide BLS or ALS stabilization on scene, but not
129 intended to transport a patient to a medical care facility.

130 (16) PARAMEDIC. Any individual who is an emergency
131 medical services personnel, is 18 years of age or older, and
132 who has successfully completed the paramedic course of
133 instruction, or its equivalent, as approved by the board, and
134 passed the state paramedic examination, and who has been
135 granted a license by the board. The board may not require a
136 college degree for licensure as a paramedic.

137 (17) PATIENT. An individual who receives or requests
138 medical care, or for whom medical care is requested, because
139 the individual is sick or injured.

140 (18) PHYSICIAN. An individual licensed to practice



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141 medicine or osteopathy by the Medical Licensure Commission of
142 Alabama.

143 (19) PROGRAM MEDICAL DIRECTOR. A physician who has
144 completed the approved EMS Medical Director course and
145 provides medical direction and oversight to emergency medical
146 services personnel.

147 (20) PROVIDER SERVICE. An organization, whether public
148 or private, which provides transport or non-transport
149 emergency medical services.

150 (21) SCENE FLIGHT. The flight of an air ambulance to
151 the physical location of a sick or injured individual.

152 (22) TRANSPORT VEHICLE. An air or ground ambulance."

153 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first
154 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
155 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.