

2012 -- H 7578

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICES

Introduced By: Representative J. Patrick O'Neill

Date Introduced: February 15, 2012

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-4.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-4.1 entitled
2 "Emergency Medical Transportation Services" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-4.1-4. Minimum standards.** -- (a) The director shall establish minimum standards to
4 be met in the following areas:

- 5 (1) Licensing;
- 6 (2) Vehicles;
- 7 (3) Equipment for vehicles;
- 8 (4) Personnel;
- 9 (5) Training;
- 10 (6) Communications;
- 11 (7) Cooperation with other units;
- 12 (8) Treatment of acutely ill or injured persons by ambulance and rescue personnel; and
- 13 (9) Financial capacity of private ambulance service providers.

14 (b) The following minimum standards shall be enforced:

15 (1) Licensed ambulances shall be stored in a heated garage year round to ensure medical
16 supplies and devices are maintained in immediate useable condition.

17 (2) Dispatchers of a private ambulance service must obtain and maintain certification in
18 Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD).

19 (3) Licensed ambulances shall be kept in good physical order. The ambulances shall be

1 free of rot and rust and any visible damage shall be repaired or the vehicle shall be removed from
2 service.

3 (4) Licensed ambulances will no longer be considered fit for service if the vehicle
4 exceeds five (5) years of age or has accumulated more than two hundred thousand (200,000)
5 miles of service.

6 (5) Advanced Life Support (ALS) transports shall be reviewed for quality assurance.

7 (6) Owners and officers shall be subject to a Background Criminal Investigation (BCI)
8 check performed by the state of Rhode Island. A felony conviction shall preclude the individual
9 from owning, operating, being employed by or otherwise have any interest in a private ambulance
10 service. Employees of a private ambulance service shall provide employers (current or
11 prospective) a copy of a Background Criminal Investigation (BCI) and provide proof of a valid
12 driver's license and driver's history.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICES

- 1 This act would establish certain minimum standards for the private ambulance industry.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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