

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2344 Session of
1986

INTRODUCED BY KASUNIC, DeLUCA, FEE, RYBAK, TRELLO, VAN HORNE,
SEMMELE, STAIRS, BELFANTI, GAMBLE, OLASZ, FOX, DALEY,
MICOZZIE, BELARDI, E. Z. TAYLOR AND F. TAYLOR, APRIL 9, 1986

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, APRIL 9, 1986

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 3, 1985 (P.L.164, No.45), entitled "An
2 act relating to the prevention and reduction of premature
3 death and disability in this Commonwealth; providing for
4 assistance, coordination and support of the development and
5 maintenance of a comprehensive emergency medical services
6 system and for qualifications, eligibility and certification
7 of emergency medical services personnel and licensing
8 ambulance services; imposing powers and duties on the
9 Department of Health; and making repeals," further regulating
10 training of emergency medical technicians.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 11(b) of the act of July 3, 1985
14 (P.L.164, No.45), known as the Emergency Medical Services Act,
15 is amended to read:

16 Section 11. Emergency medical services personnel.

17 * * *

18 (b) Certification of emergency medical technician.--

19 (1) The department shall certify any person as an
20 emergency medical technician who:

21 [(1)] (i) Has completed a basic training program for

1 emergency medical technicians approved by the department,
2 which program follows in accordance with the current
3 national standard curriculum for emergency medical
4 technicians as set forth in the rules and regulations
5 promulgated by the department.

6 [(2)] (ii) Has taken and successfully passed a
7 written examination prescribed by the department.

8 [(3)] (iii) Has taken and successfully passed a
9 practical test of emergency medical technician skills
10 prescribed by the department.

11 [(4)] (iv) Is at least 16 years of age.

12 Notwithstanding the provisions of the act of [July 20, 1974
13 (P.L.551, No.190), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1974]
14 December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
15 Practice Act of 1985, or the provisions of any act to the
16 contrary, any person with a valid certification from the
17 department as an emergency medical technician may, in the
18 case of an emergency, perform those duties as deemed
19 appropriate by the department in accordance with rules and
20 regulations promulgated under this act.

21 (2) Emergency medical technicians shall be recertified
22 every three years. The department shall recertify emergency
23 medical technicians who:

24 (i) complete a basic training refresher program and
25 successfully pass a practical test of emergency medical
26 technician skills and a written examination prescribed by
27 the department;

28 (ii) successfully pass through a challenge process,
29 a practical test of emergency medical technician skills
30 and a written examination prescribed by the department;

1 or

2 (iii) accumulate a minimum number of continuing
3 education units, during a three-year certification
4 period, from a continuing education program prescribed by
5 the department.

6 (3) An emergency medical technician who recertifies
7 through continuing education units shall be required to
8 accumulate a minimum of six continuing education units during
9 a three-year certification period. A continuing education
10 unit (C.E.U.) is defined as a unit of credit awarded for each
11 ten hours of direct instruction, didactic or evaluation time,
12 or for each 20 hours of laboratory practical time. Guidelines
13 for accumulation of continuing education units shall conform
14 to those established by the American Association of Colleges
15 and Universities and shall be used as the sole criteria in
16 ascertaining the recertification eligibility of the
17 applicant. The continuing education program shall be
18 administered through the act of August 24, 1963 (P.L.1132,
19 No.484), known as the Community College Act of 1963, and
20 costs and expenses incurred shall be reimbursed by the
21 Department of Education.

22 (4) Institutions awarding continuing education units
23 shall be reimbursed by the Department of Education for full-
24 time equivalency claims of modules conducted and properly
25 registered.

26 (5) The Departments of Health and Education shall work
27 cooperatively with and encourage the 14 community colleges in
28 this Commonwealth to provide administrative support to assist
29 the Department of Health in administering the continuing
30 education program. Whenever necessary, other Commonwealth

1 educational institutions shall, if requested, provide each
2 county with assistance for continuing education program
3 purposes.

4 * * *

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.