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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1062 Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY COHEN, DeWEESE, D. EVANS, BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE,  
BIANCUCCI, BOYD, CARROLL, CASORIO, COSTA, COX, FRANKEL,  
GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HERSHEY, HORNAMAN,  
HUTCHINSON, JAMES, JOSEPHS, W. KELLER, KORTZ, KULA, McCALL,  
McILHATTAN, MOYER, MUNDY, MURT, MYERS, NICKOL, PALLONE,  
PAYNE, PETRONE, PICKETT, PRESTON, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY,  
SABATINA, SAYLOR, SCHRODER, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK,  
WALKO, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD AND CONKLIN, APRIL 18, 2007

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 18, 2007

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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 providing  
10 for emergency medical services personnel.

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

13 Section 1. Section 11(a.1)(3) of the act of July 3, 1985  
14 (P.L.164, No.45), known as the Emergency Medical Services Act,  
15 amended October 5, 1994 (P.L.557, No.82), is amended and the  
16 subsection is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

17 Section 11. Emergency medical services personnel.

18 \* \* \*

1 (a.1) Certification of first responders.--

2 \* \* \*

3 (3) A certification is valid for a period of three  
4 years, subject to disciplinary action pursuant to subsection  
5 (j.1) and to extension under paragraph (3.1). The department  
6 shall recertify as a first responder an individual who  
7 complies with all of the following:

8 (i) Completes an application on a form prescribed by  
9 the department.

10 (ii) Is or was previously certified as a first  
11 responder.

12 (iii) Successfully completes:

13 (A) a first responder practical skills and  
14 written knowledge examination prescribed by the  
15 department; or

16 (B) a continuing education program for first  
17 responders approved or recognized by the department.

18 (iv) The department, in consultation with the State  
19 Advisory Council, shall review and update continuing  
20 education programs not less than biennially.

21 (3.1) A certified emergency medical technician whose  
22 certification lapses while he is outside this Commonwealth  
23 due to active duty in the armed forces shall be permitted to  
24 return to work as an emergency medical technician until  
25 either:

26 (i) the next available practical skills and written  
27 knowledge tests are offered and graded; or

28 (ii) the next continuing education program is  
29 offered and completed, whichever occurs first.

30 \* \* \*

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