

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2097 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY HAMM, PICKETT, CAUSER, OWLETT, FRITZ, RADER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, STAMBAUGH, ECKER, WHEELAND, COX, E. NELSON, ROAE, M. MACKENZIE, JOZWIAK, BERNSTINE, PENNYCUICK, IRVIN, SANKEY, SAYLOR, BOROWICZ, ZIMMERMAN, ROWE, POLINCHOCK AND ARMANINI, NOVEMBER 23, 2021

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APRIL 26, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in emergency medical services system,
3 further providing for basic life support ambulances.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. ~~Section 8133(b)(1) of Title 35 of the~~ <--
7 ~~Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended and subsection (b)~~
8 ~~is amended by adding a paragraph to read:~~

9 SECTION 1. SECTION 8133(B)(1) AND (C)(1) OF TITLE 35 OF THE <--
10 PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ARE AMENDED TO READ:

11 § 8133. Basic life support ambulances.

12 \* \* \*

13 (b) Staffing requirements.--

14 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2) or (5) <--

15 SUBSECTION (C)(1), minimum staffing for a BLS ambulance when <--

16 responding to a call to provide EMS is an ambulance

1 attendant, EMR or EMT, a second EMS provider at or above the  
2 EMT level and an EMS vehicle operator, except that only the  
3 two EMS providers need to respond if one of them is also the  
4 EMS vehicle operator. When present, an EMS provider above the  
5 EMR level must attend to the patient at the scene and during  
6 patient transportation.

7 \* \* \*

8 ~~(5) The minimum staffing requirements for a BLS~~ <--  
9 ~~ambulance in a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth~~  
10 ~~class when responding to a call to provide EMS is an EMS~~  
11 ~~vehicle operator and an EMS provider at or above the level of~~  
12 ~~an EMT. When present, an EMS provider at or above the level~~  
13 ~~of an EMT shall attend to the patient at the scene and during~~  
14 ~~patient transportation.~~

15 \* \* \*

16 (C) EXCEPTIONS.-- <--

17 (1) [THE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) (2)  
18 MAY BE WAIVED OR ADJUSTED AT THE DEPARTMENT'S DISCRETION. THE  
19 DEPARTMENT SHALL PERMIT AN EMS AGENCY TO FILE FOR A WAIVER OR  
20 EXCEPTION FROM THE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS  
21 SUBSECTION FOR EXTRAORDINARY REASONS AS DETERMINED BY THE  
22 DEPARTMENT ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS AND IN THE BEST INTEREST  
23 OF THE EMS SYSTEM AND PATIENT CARE.] THE MINIMUM STAFFING  
24 REQUIREMENTS FOR A BLS AMBULANCE WHEN RESPONDING TO A CALL TO  
25 PROVIDE EMS IS AN EMS VEHICLE OPERATOR AND AN EMS PROVIDER AT  
26 OR ABOVE THE LEVEL OF AN EMT. WHEN PRESENT, AN EMS PROVIDER  
27 AT OR ABOVE THE LEVEL OF AN EMT SHALL ATTEND TO THE PATIENT  
28 AT THE SCENE AND DURING PATIENT TRANSPORTATION.

29 \* \* \*

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