

October 2008

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-27 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to regulation of emergency medical services operation dispatch; and to
3 amend and reenact section 23-27-02, subsection 1 of section 23-27-04, and section 23-27-04.7
4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of emergency medical services,
5 emergency medical services operation licensure standards, and distribution of property tax
6 revenues to emergency medical services operations.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

8 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-27-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **23-27-02. Definitions.** For the purpose of this chapter, unless the context otherwise
11 requires:

- 12 1. "Department" means the state department of health.
- 13 2. "Emergency medical services" means the prehospital medical stabilization ~~and or~~
14 transportation of ~~individuals~~ an individual who ~~are~~ is sick, injured, wounded, or
15 otherwise incapacitated or helpless, or in a real or perceived acute medical
16 condition, by emergency medical services personnel with physician oversight a
17 person that holds oneself out to the public as being in that service or that regularly
18 provides that service. The term includes ~~assessing;~~
19 a. Assessing, stabilizing, and treating life-threatening and non-life-threatening
20 medical conditions; or
21 b. Transporting a patient who is in a real or perceived acute medical condition to
22 a hospital emergency room.
- 23 3. "Emergency medical services operation" means an entity licensed to offer and
24 provide emergency medical services by emergency medical services personnel

1 with physician oversight. The term includes basic life support ambulance services,
2 advanced life support ambulance services, air ambulance services, and quick
3 response unit services.

4 4. "Emergency medical services personnel" means individuals who provide
5 emergency medical services for emergency medical services operations. The term
6 includes emergency medical services professionals, drivers, and
7 department-certified emergency medical services providers, such as
8 cardiopulmonary resuscitation drivers and first responders.

9 5. "Emergency medical services professional" means an individual licensed by the
10 department as an emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical
11 technician-intermediate, or emergency medical technician-paramedic.

12 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 23-27-04 of the North Dakota
13 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

14 1. An emergency medical services operation within this state may not operate unless
15 the operation is licensed in accordance with this chapter and rules adopted by the
16 state health council. The rules must include:

17 a. Time when operator's services must be available.

18 b. Type of motor vehicle operator's license needed for drivers of ground
19 vehicles.

20 c. Training standards for operation personnel.

21 d. Equipment and ground vehicle standards.

22 e. Annual license fees.

23 f. Number of personnel required for each run.

24 g. The scope of practice for uncertified drivers, certified personnel, and
25 emergency medical services professionals.

26 h. Performance standards, which may include response time standards.

27 i. Other requirements as may be found necessary to carry out the intent of this
28 chapter.

29 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-27-04.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is
30 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **23-27-04.7. ~~Study of standards of reasonable coverage~~– County reporting - Use**
2 **of property tax levies.**

3 ~~1. During the 2007-08 interim, the state health council shall study the minimum~~
4 ~~requirements of reasonable emergency medical services coverage which must~~
5 ~~take into account the response time for emergency medical services. Before~~
6 ~~July 1, 2008, the state health officer shall report to the legislative council the~~
7 ~~outcome and recommendations of this study.~~

8 ~~2.~~ The board of county commissioners of every county in this state shall conduct an
9 annual review of the emergency medical services coverage within that county and
10 shall submit an annual report to the state health officer in a format approved by the
11 state department of health.

12 ~~3.~~ A taxing district that levies property taxes for support of emergency medical
13 services shall ensure that every emergency medical services operation that
14 operates in that taxing district receives a benefit portion of the revenue from this
15 tax which is equal to the revenue from mills levied for emergency medical services
16 in the townships covered by the emergency medical services operation.

17 **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 23-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is
18 created and enacted as follows:

19 **Emergency medical services operation dispatch.** The department may regulate the
20 dispatch of emergency medical services operations.