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HOUSE BILL 2498

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Caldier, Kilduff, Muri, Cody, Young, Smith, McBride, Hayes, and Johnson

Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to facilitating the credentialing process for  
2 military spouses and state registered domestic partners of military  
3 persons; amending RCW 18.71.205; adding a new section to chapter  
4 18.71 RCW; and adding new sections to chapter 18.73 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71.205 and 2015 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (1) The secretary of the department of health shall prescribe:

9 (a) Practice parameters, training standards for, and levels of,  
10 physician's trained advanced emergency medical technicians and  
11 paramedics;

12 (b) Minimum standards and performance requirements for the  
13 certification and recertification of physician's trained advanced  
14 emergency medical technicians and paramedics; and

15 (c) Procedures for certification, recertification, and  
16 decertification of physician's trained advanced emergency medical  
17 technicians and paramedics.

18 (2) Initial certification shall be for a period established by  
19 the secretary pursuant to RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

1 (3) Recertification shall be granted upon proof of continuing  
2 satisfactory performance and education, and shall be for a period  
3 established by the secretary pursuant to RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

4 (4) As used in this chapter and chapter 18.73 RCW, "approved  
5 medical program director" means a person who:

6 (a) Is licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to this  
7 chapter or osteopathic medicine and surgery pursuant to chapter 18.57  
8 RCW; and

9 (b) Is qualified and knowledgeable in the administration and  
10 management of emergency care and services; and

11 (c) Is so certified by the department of health for a county,  
12 group of counties, or cities with populations over four hundred  
13 thousand in coordination with the recommendations of the local  
14 medical community and local emergency medical services and trauma  
15 care council.

16 (5) The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW, governs  
17 uncertified practice, the issuance and denial of certificates, and  
18 the disciplining of certificate holders under this section. The  
19 secretary shall be the disciplining authority under this section.  
20 Disciplinary action shall be initiated against a person credentialed  
21 under this chapter in a manner consistent with the responsibilities  
22 and duties of the medical program director under whom such person is  
23 responsible.

24 (6) Such activities of physician's trained advanced emergency  
25 medical technicians and paramedics shall be limited to actions taken  
26 under the express written or oral order of medical program directors  
27 and shall not be construed at any time to include freestanding or  
28 nondirected actions, for actions not presenting an emergency or life-  
29 threatening condition, except nonemergency activities performed  
30 pursuant to subsection (7) of this section.

31 (7) Nothing in this section prohibits a physician's trained  
32 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, acting under the  
33 responsible supervision and direction of an approved medical program  
34 director, from participating in a community assistance referral and  
35 education services program established under RCW 35.21.930 if such  
36 participation does not exceed the participant's training and  
37 certification.

38 (8) When establishing standards for the reciprocal certification  
39 of physician's trained advanced emergency medical technicians and  
40 paramedics who are licensed in another state or accredited by a

1 national accrediting organization approved by the department of  
2 health, the secretary may not adopt standards that require applicants  
3 who are military spouses or state registered domestic partners of  
4 military persons to, as a prior condition of certification:

5 (a) Receive the recommendation of an approved medical program  
6 director; and

7 (b) Obtain active membership with an emergency medical services  
8 agency.

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 18.71  
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 The department of health shall grant a limited certification to a  
12 physician's trained advanced emergency medical technician or  
13 paramedic who is a military spouse or state registered domestic  
14 partner of a military person and is licensed in another state or is  
15 accredited by an accrediting organization approved by the department  
16 of health which has a more limited scope of authorized services than  
17 Washington. The applicant must meet all other requirements for  
18 reciprocal certification in Washington. The limited license shall  
19 state the restricted services that the physician's trained advanced  
20 emergency medical technician and paramedic is prohibited from  
21 performing in Washington. The limited license may be renewed.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 18.73  
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 When establishing standards for the reciprocal certification of  
25 emergency medical technicians and first responders who are licensed  
26 in another state or accredited by a national accrediting organization  
27 approved by the department, the secretary may not adopt standards  
28 that require applicants who are military spouses or state registered  
29 domestic partners of military persons to, as a prior condition of  
30 certification:

31 (1) Receive the recommendation of an approved medical program  
32 director; and

33 (2) Obtain active membership with an emergency medical services  
34 agency.

35 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 18.73  
36 RCW to read as follows:

1       The department shall grant a limited certification to an  
2 emergency medical technician or first responder who is a military  
3 spouse or state registered domestic partner of a military person and  
4 is licensed in another state or is accredited by an accrediting  
5 organization approved by the department which has a more limited  
6 scope of authorized services than Washington. The applicant must meet  
7 all other requirements for reciprocal certification in Washington.  
8 The limited license shall state the restricted services that the  
9 emergency medical technician or first responder is prohibited from  
10 performing in Washington. The limited license may be renewed.

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