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**SENATE BILL 5900**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Van De Wege, Keiser, Conway, Hasegawa, Lovick, Randall, and Saldaña

Read first time 01/19/22. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a provisional paramedic or emergency  
2 medical technician license; amending RCW 18.73.081 and 18.71.205; and  
3 adding a new section to chapter 18.71 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Paramedics and emergency medical technicians who are  
8 currently licensed or certified in another state and who hold a  
9 current national registry of emergency medical technicians  
10 certification are eligible for a Washington provisional paramedic or  
11 emergency medical technician license.

12 (2) To be eligible for a Washington provisional paramedic or  
13 emergency medical technician license, the applicant shall:

14 (a) Be currently licensed or certified in another state and be in  
15 good standing with the emergency medical technician licensing board  
16 of that state;

17 (b) Hold a current emergency medical technician or paramedic  
18 certification from the national registry of emergency medical  
19 technicians, and paramedics must have attended an accredited  
20 paramedic school;

1 (c) Be employed or have a valid employment offer from a  
2 Washington emergency medical services agency;

3 (d) Be approved for a provisional status from the emergency  
4 medical services medical director of the Washington agency for which  
5 the applicant is or will be employed; and

6 (e) Provide evidence of being current on ongoing training.

7 (3) The applicant shall pay the following fees as part of the  
8 application process in accordance with administrative procedures and  
9 requirements as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280:

10 (a) \$300 for a paramedic or emergency medical technician  
11 application; and

12 (b) \$50 for a provisional paramedic or emergency medical  
13 technician fee.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.73.081 and 1993 c 254 s 1 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 In addition to other duties prescribed by law, the secretary  
17 shall:

18 (1) Prescribe minimum requirements for:

19 (a) Ambulance, air ambulance, and aid vehicles and equipment;

20 (b) Ambulance and aid services; and

21 (c) Minimum emergency communication equipment;

22 (2) Adopt procedures for services that fail to perform in  
23 accordance with minimum requirements;

24 (3) Prescribe minimum standards for first responder and emergency  
25 medical technician training including:

26 (a) Adoption of curriculum and period of certification;

27 (b) Procedures for provisional certification, certification,  
28 recertification, decertification, or modification of certificates;

29 (c) Adoption of requirements for ongoing training and evaluation,  
30 as approved by the county medical program director, to include  
31 appropriate evaluation for individual knowledge and skills. The first  
32 responder, emergency medical technician, or emergency medical  
33 services provider agency may elect a program of continuing education  
34 and a written and practical examination instead of meeting the  
35 ongoing training and evaluation requirements;

36 (d) Procedures for reciprocity with other states or national  
37 certifying agencies;

38 (e) Review and approval or disapproval of training programs; and

1 (f) Adoption of standards for numbers and qualifications of  
2 instructional personnel required for first responder and emergency  
3 medical technician training programs;

4 (4) Prescribe minimum requirements for liability insurance to be  
5 carried by licensed services except that this requirement shall not  
6 apply to public bodies; and

7 (5) Certify emergency medical program directors.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.71.205 and 2015 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (a) Is licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to this  
28 chapter or osteopathic medicine and surgery pursuant to chapter 18.57  
29 RCW; and

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

32 (c) Is so certified by the department of health for a county,  
33 group of counties, or cities with populations over four hundred  
34 thousand in coordination with the recommendations of the local  
35 medical community and local emergency medical services and trauma  
36 care council.

37 (5) The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW, governs  
38 uncertified practice, the issuance and denial of certificates, and  
39 the disciplining of certificate holders under this section. The

1 secretary shall be the disciplining authority under this section.  
2 Disciplinary action shall be initiated against a person credentialed  
3 under this chapter in a manner consistent with the responsibilities  
4 and duties of the medical program director under whom such person is  
5 responsible.

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

13 (7) Nothing in this section prohibits a physician's trained  
14 advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic, acting under the  
15 responsible supervision and direction of an approved medical program  
16 director, from participating in a community assistance referral and  
17 education services program established under RCW 35.21.930 if such  
18 participation does not exceed the participant's training and  
19 certification.

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