

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems  
5 Act is amended by changing Section 3.85 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.85)

7 Sec. 3.85. Vehicle Service Providers.

8 (a) "Vehicle Service Provider" means an entity licensed by  
9 the Department to provide emergency or non-emergency medical  
10 services in compliance with this Act, the rules promulgated by  
11 the Department pursuant to this Act, and an operational plan  
12 approved by its EMS System(s), utilizing at least ambulances  
13 or specialized emergency medical service vehicles (SEMSV).

14 (1) "Ambulance" means any publicly or privately owned  
15 on-road vehicle that is specifically designed, constructed  
16 or modified and equipped, and is intended to be used for,  
17 and is maintained or operated for the emergency  
18 transportation of persons who are sick, injured, wounded  
19 or otherwise incapacitated or helpless, or the  
20 non-emergency medical transportation of persons who  
21 require the presence of medical personnel to monitor the  
22 individual's condition or medical apparatus being used on  
23 such individuals.

1           (2) "Specialized Emergency Medical Services Vehicle"  
2           or "SEMSV" means a vehicle or conveyance, other than those  
3           owned or operated by the federal government, that is  
4           primarily intended for use in transporting the sick or  
5           injured by means of air, water, or ground transportation,  
6           that is not an ambulance as defined in this Act. The term  
7           includes watercraft, aircraft and special purpose ground  
8           transport vehicles or conveyances not intended for use on  
9           public roads.

10           (3) An ambulance or SEMSV may also be designated as a  
11           Limited Operation Vehicle or Special-Use Vehicle:

12           (A) "Limited Operation Vehicle" means a vehicle  
13           which is licensed by the Department to provide basic,  
14           intermediate or advanced life support emergency or  
15           non-emergency medical services that are exclusively  
16           limited to specific events or locales.

17           (B) "Special-Use Vehicle" means any publicly or  
18           privately owned vehicle that is specifically designed,  
19           constructed or modified and equipped, and is intended  
20           to be used for, and is maintained or operated solely  
21           for the emergency or non-emergency transportation of a  
22           specific medical class or category of persons who are  
23           sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or  
24           helpless (e.g. high-risk obstetrical patients,  
25           neonatal patients).

26           (C) "Reserve Ambulance" means a vehicle that meets

1           all criteria set forth in this Section and all  
2           Department rules, except for the required inventory of  
3           medical supplies and durable medical equipment, which  
4           may be rapidly transferred from a fully functional  
5           ambulance to a reserve ambulance without the use of  
6           tools or special mechanical expertise.

7           (b) The Department shall have the authority and  
8           responsibility to:

9           (1) Require all Vehicle Service Providers, both  
10          publicly and privately owned, to function within an EMS  
11          System.

12          (2) Require a Vehicle Service Provider utilizing  
13          ambulances to have a primary affiliation with an EMS  
14          System within the EMS Region in which its Primary Service  
15          Area is located, which is the geographic areas in which  
16          the provider renders the majority of its emergency  
17          responses. This requirement shall not apply to Vehicle  
18          Service Providers which exclusively utilize Limited  
19          Operation Vehicles.

20          (3) Establish licensing standards and requirements for  
21          Vehicle Service Providers, through rules adopted pursuant  
22          to this Act, including but not limited to:

23                  (A) Vehicle design, specification, operation and  
24                  maintenance standards, including standards for the use  
25                  of reserve ambulances;

26                  (B) Equipment requirements;

1 (C) Staffing requirements; and

2 (D) License renewal at intervals determined by the  
3 Department, which shall be not less than every 4  
4 years.

5 The Department's standards and requirements with  
6 respect to vehicle staffing must allow for an alternative  
7 rural staffing model for those vehicle service providers  
8 that serve a rural or semi-rural population of 10,000 or  
9 fewer inhabitants and exclusively uses volunteers,  
10 paid-on-call, or a combination thereof.

11 A Vehicle Service Provider that serves a rural or  
12 semi-rural population of 10,000 or fewer inhabitants and  
13 exclusively uses volunteers, paid-on-call, or a  
14 combination thereof to provide patient care may apply for  
15 alternate rural staffing authorization from the Department  
16 to authorize the ambulance, Non-Transport Vehicle,  
17 Special-Use Vehicle, or Limited Operation Vehicle to be  
18 staffed by one EMT licensed at or above the level at which  
19 the vehicle is licensed, plus one Emergency Medical  
20 Responder when 2 licensed Emergency Services personnel are  
21 not available to respond; once granted, an alternate rural  
22 staffing authorization shall not expire.

23 (4) License all Vehicle Service Providers that have  
24 met the Department's requirements for licensure, unless  
25 such Provider is owned or licensed by the federal  
26 government. All Provider licenses issued by the Department

1 shall specify the level and type of each vehicle covered  
2 by the license (BLS, ILS, ALS, ambulance, SEMSV, limited  
3 operation vehicle, special use vehicle, reserve  
4 ambulance).

5 (5) Annually inspect all licensed vehicles operated by  
6 Vehicle Service Providers.

7 (6) Suspend, revoke, refuse to issue or refuse to  
8 renew the license of any Vehicle Service Provider, or that  
9 portion of a license pertaining to a specific vehicle  
10 operated by the Provider, after an opportunity for a  
11 hearing, when findings show that the Provider or one or  
12 more of its vehicles has failed to comply with the  
13 standards and requirements of this Act or rules adopted by  
14 the Department pursuant to this Act.

15 (7) Issue an Emergency Suspension Order for any  
16 Provider or vehicle licensed under this Act, when the  
17 Director or his designee has determined that an immediate  
18 and serious danger to the public health, safety and  
19 welfare exists. Suspension or revocation proceedings which  
20 offer an opportunity for hearing shall be promptly  
21 initiated after the Emergency Suspension Order has been  
22 issued.

23 (8) Exempt any licensed vehicle from subsequent  
24 vehicle design standards or specifications required by the  
25 Department, as long as said vehicle is continuously in  
26 compliance with the vehicle design standards and

1 specifications originally applicable to that vehicle, or  
2 until said vehicle's title of ownership is transferred.

3 (9) Exempt any vehicle (except an SEMSV) which was  
4 being used as an ambulance on or before December 15, 1980,  
5 from vehicle design standards and specifications required  
6 by the Department, until said vehicle's title of ownership  
7 is transferred. Such vehicles shall not be exempt from all  
8 other licensing standards and requirements prescribed by  
9 the Department.

10 (10) Prohibit any Vehicle Service Provider from  
11 advertising, identifying its vehicles, or disseminating  
12 information in a false or misleading manner concerning the  
13 Provider's type and level of vehicles, location, primary  
14 service area, response times, level of personnel,  
15 licensure status or System participation.

16 (10.5) Prohibit any Vehicle Service Provider, whether  
17 municipal, private, or hospital-owned, from advertising  
18 itself as a critical care transport provider unless it  
19 participates in a Department-approved EMS System critical  
20 care transport plan.

21 (11) Charge each Vehicle Service Provider a fee per  
22 transport vehicle, due annually at time of inspection. The  
23 fee per transport vehicle shall be set by administrative  
24 rule by the Department and shall not exceed 100 vehicles  
25 per provider.

26 (Source: P.A. 97-333, eff. 8-12-11; 97-1014, eff. 1-1-13;

1 98-452, eff. 1-1-14.)

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
3 becoming law.