

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 Act
5 is amended by adding Section 3.87 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.87 new)

7 Sec. 3.87. Ambulance service upgrades; rural population.

8 (a) In this Section, "rural ambulance service provider"
9 means an ambulance service provider licensed under this Act
10 that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer inhabitants.

11 (b) A rural ambulance service provider may submit a
12 proposal to the EMS System Medical Director requesting approval
13 of either or both of the following:

14 (1) Rural ambulance service provider in-field service
15 level upgrade.

16 (A) An ambulance operated by a rural ambulance
17 service provider may be upgraded, as defined by the EMS
18 System Medical Director in a policy or procedure, as
19 long as the EMS System Medical Director and the
20 Department have approved the proposal, to the highest
21 level of EMT license (advanced life support/paramedic,
22 intermediate life support, or basic life support) held
23 by any person staffing that ambulance. The ambulance

1 service provider's proposal for an upgrade must
2 include all of the following:

3 (i) The manner in which the provider will
4 secure advanced life support equipment, supplies,
5 and medications.

6 (ii) The type of quality assurance the
7 provider will perform.

8 (iii) An assurance that the provider will
9 advertise only the level of care that can be
10 provided 24 hours a day.

11 (B) If a rural ambulance service provider is
12 approved to provide an in-field service level upgrade
13 based on the licensed personnel on the vehicle, all the
14 advanced life support medical supplies, durable
15 medical equipment, and medications must be secured and
16 locked with access by only the personnel who have been
17 authorized by the EMS System Medical Director to
18 utilize those supplies.

19 (C) The EMS System shall routinely perform quality
20 assurance, in compliance with the EMS System's quality
21 assurance plan approved by the Department, on in-field
22 service level upgrades authorized under this Section
23 to ensure compliance with the EMS System plan.

24 (2) Rural ambulance service provider in-field service
25 level upgrade. The EMS System Medical Director may define
26 what constitutes an in-field service level upgrade through

1 an EMS System policy or procedure. An in-field service
2 level upgrade may include, but need not be limited to, an
3 upgrade to a licensed ambulance, alternate response
4 vehicle as defined by the Department in rules, or
5 specialized emergency medical services vehicle.

6 (c) If the EMS System Medical Director approves a proposal
7 for a rural in-field service level upgrade under this Section,
8 he or she shall submit the proposal to the Department along
9 with a statement of approval signed by him or her. Once the
10 Department has approved the proposal, the rural ambulance
11 service provider will be authorized to function at the highest
12 level of EMT license (advanced life support/paramedic,
13 intermediate life support, or basic life support) held by any
14 person staffing the vehicle.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
16 becoming law.