

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 changing Section 3.87 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.87)

7 Sec. 3.87. Ambulance service provider and vehicle service  
8 provider upgrades; rural population.

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

12 In this Section, "rural vehicle service provider" means an  
13 entity that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer  
14 inhabitants and is licensed by the Department to provide  
15 emergency or non-emergency medical services in compliance with  
16 this Act, the rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this  
17 Act, and an operational plan approved by the entity's EMS  
18 System, utilizing at least an ambulance, alternate response  
19 vehicle as defined by the Department in rules, or specialized  
20 emergency medical services vehicle.

21 (b) A rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
22 service provider may submit a proposal to the EMS System  
23 Medical Director requesting approval of either or both of the

1 following:

2 (1) Rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
3 service provider in-field service level upgrade.

4 (A) An ambulance operated by a rural ambulance  
5 service provider or an ambulance, specialized  
6 emergency medical services vehicle, or alternate  
7 response vehicle operated by a rural vehicle service  
8 provider may be upgraded, as defined by the EMS System  
9 Medical Director in a policy or procedure, as long as  
10 the EMS System Medical Director and the Department have  
11 approved the proposal, to the highest level of EMT  
12 license (advanced life support/paramedic, intermediate  
13 life support, or basic life support) held by any person  
14 staffing that ambulance, specialized emergency medical  
15 services vehicle, or alternate response vehicle. The  
16 ambulance service provider's or rural vehicle service  
17 provider's proposal for an upgrade must include all of  
18 the following:

19 (i) The manner in which the provider will  
20 secure advanced life support equipment, supplies,  
21 and medications.

22 (ii) The type of quality assurance the  
23 provider will perform.

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

1 (B) If a rural ambulance service provider or rural  
2 vehicle service provider is approved to provide an  
3 in-field service level upgrade based on the licensed  
4 personnel on the vehicle, all the advanced life support  
5 medical supplies, durable medical equipment, and  
6 medications must be secured and locked with access by  
7 only the personnel who have been authorized by the EMS  
8 System Medical Director to utilize those supplies.

9 (C) The EMS System shall routinely perform quality  
10 assurance, in compliance with the EMS System's quality  
11 assurance plan approved by the Department, on in-field  
12 service level upgrades authorized under this Section  
13 to ensure compliance with the EMS System plan.

14 (2) Rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
15 service provider in-field service level upgrade. The EMS  
16 System Medical Director may define what constitutes an  
17 in-field service level upgrade through an EMS System policy  
18 or procedure. An in-field service level upgrade may  
19 include, but need not be limited to, an upgrade to a  
20 licensed ambulance, alternate response vehicle ~~as defined~~  
21 ~~by the Department in rules~~, or specialized emergency  
22 medical services vehicle.

23 (c) If the EMS System Medical Director approves a proposal  
24 for a rural in-field service level upgrade under this Section,  
25 he or she shall submit the proposal to the Department along  
26 with a statement of approval signed by him or her. Once the

1 Department has approved the proposal, the rural ambulance  
2 service provider or rural vehicle service provider will be  
3 authorized to function at the highest level of EMT license  
4 (advanced life support/paramedic, intermediate life support,  
5 or basic life support) held by any person staffing the vehicle.  
6 (Source: P.A. 98-608, eff. 12-27-13.)

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8 becoming law.