

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical dispatches.

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

4 Section 90. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
5 Systems Act is amended by changing Section 3.70 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.70)

7 Sec. 3.70. Emergency Medical Dispatcher.

8 (a) "Emergency Medical Dispatcher" means a person who  
9 has successfully completed a dispatching course meeting or  
10 exceeding the national curriculum of the United States  
11 Department of Transportation in accordance with rules adopted  
12 by the Department pursuant to this Act, who accepts calls  
13 from the public for emergency medical services and dispatches  
14 designated emergency medical services personnel and vehicles.  
15 The Emergency Medical Dispatcher may or may not provide  
16 prearrival medical instructions to the caller, at the  
17 discretion of the entity or agency that employs him. Such  
18 instructions shall be provided in accordance with protocols  
19 established by the EMS Medical Director of the EMS System in  
20 which the dispatcher operates. If the dispatcher operates  
21 under the authority of an Emergency Telephone System Board  
22 established under the Emergency Telephone System Act, the  
23 protocols shall be established by such Board in consultation  
24 with the EMS Medical Director. Persons who have already  
25 completed a course of instruction in emergency medical  
26 dispatch based on, equivalent to or exceeding the national  
27 curriculum of the United States Department of Transportation,  
28 or as otherwise approved by the Department, shall be  
29 considered Emergency Medical Dispatchers on the effective  
30 date of this amendatory Act.

31 (b) The Department shall have the authority and

1 responsibility to:

2 (1) Prescribe education and continuing education  
3 requirements for the Emergency Medical Dispatcher, which  
4 meet or exceed the national curriculum of the United  
5 States Department of Transportation, through rules  
6 adopted pursuant to this Act;

7 (2) Require the Emergency Medical Dispatcher to  
8 notify the Department of the EMS System(s) in which he  
9 operates;

10 (3) Require the Emergency Medical Dispatcher who  
11 provides prearrival instructions to callers to comply  
12 with the protocols for such instructions established by  
13 the EMS Medical Director(s) and Emergency Telephone  
14 System Board or Boards, or in the absence of an Emergency  
15 Telephone System Board or Boards the governmental agency  
16 performing the duties of an Emergency Telephone System  
17 Board or Boards, of the EMS System or Systems in which he  
18 operates;

19 (4) Require the Emergency Medical Dispatcher to  
20 keep the Department currently informed as to the entity  
21 or agency that employs or supervises his activities as an  
22 Emergency Medical Dispatcher;

23 (5) ~~(Blank) Establish a mechanism for phasing in~~  
24 ~~the Emergency Medical Dispatcher requirements over a~~  
25 ~~five-year period;~~

26 (5.5) Establish an annual recertification  
27 requirement for Emergency Medical Dispatchers that  
28 requires at least 12 hours of continuing education each  
29 year; and

30 (6) Establish criteria for modifying or waiving  
31 Emergency Medical Dispatcher requirements based on (i)  
32 the scope and frequency of dispatch activities and the  
33 dispatcher's access to training or (ii) whether the  
34 previously-attended dispatcher training program merits

1           automatic recertification for the dispatcher.

2           (Source: P.A. 89-177, eff. 7-19-95.)