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2012

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to emergency medical services;  
3 amending s. 381.0034, F.S.; deleting the requirement  
4 for emergency medical technicians and paramedics to  
5 complete an educational course on the modes of  
6 transmission, infection control procedures, clinical  
7 management, and prevention of human immunodeficiency  
8 virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome;  
9 amending s. 401.23, F.S.; redefining the term "basic  
10 life support" for purposes of the Raymond H.  
11 Alexander, M.D., Emergency Medical Transportation  
12 Services Act; amending s. 401.24, F.S.; revising the  
13 period for review of the comprehensive state plan for  
14 emergency medical services and programs; amending s.  
15 401.27, F.S.; revising the requirements for  
16 certification or recertification as an emergency  
17 medical technician or paramedic; revising the  
18 requirements for certification for an out-of-state  
19 trained emergency medical technician or paramedic;  
20 amending s. 401.2701, F.S.; revising requirements for  
21 an institution that conducts an approved program for  
22 the education of emergency medical technicians and  
23 paramedics; revising the requirements that students  
24 must meet in order to receive a certificate of  
25 completion from an approved program; providing an  
26 effective date.

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28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 381.0034, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.0034 Requirement for instruction on HIV and AIDS.—

(1) As of July 1, 1991, the Department of Health shall require each person licensed or certified under ~~chapter 401,~~ chapter 467, part IV of chapter 468, or chapter 483, as a condition of biennial relicensure, to complete an educational course approved by the department on the modes of transmission, infection control procedures, clinical management, and prevention of human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Such course shall include information on current state ~~Florida~~ law on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and its impact on testing, confidentiality of test results, and treatment of patients. Each such licensee or certificateholder shall submit confirmation of having completed the ~~said~~ course, on a form provided by the department, when submitting fees or application for each biennial renewal.

Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 401.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

401.23 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(7) "Basic life support" means treatment of medical emergencies by a qualified person through the use of techniques ~~such as patient assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), splinting, obstetrical assistance, bandaging, administration of oxygen, application of medical antishock trousers,~~ administration of a subcutaneous injection using a premeasured autoinjector of epinephrine to a person suffering an

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57 ~~anaphylactic reaction, and other techniques~~ described in the  
58 Emergency Medical Technician Basic Training Course Curriculum or  
59 the National EMS Education Standards of the United States  
60 Department of Transportation as approved by the department. The  
61 term "~~basic life support~~" also includes other techniques that  
62 ~~which~~ have been approved and are performed under conditions  
63 specified by rules of the department.

64 Section 3. Section 401.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
65 read:

66 401.24 Emergency medical services state plan.—The  
67 department is responsible, at a minimum, for the improvement and  
68 regulation of basic and advanced life support programs. The  
69 department shall develop, and biennially ~~and~~ revise every 5 years,  
70 a comprehensive state plan for basic and advanced life support  
71 services, the emergency medical services grants program, trauma  
72 centers, the injury control program, and medical disaster  
73 preparedness. The state plan shall include, but need not be  
74 limited to:

75 (1) Emergency medical systems planning, including the  
76 prehospital and hospital phases of patient care, and injury  
77 control effort and unification of such services into a total  
78 delivery system to include air, water, and land services.

79 (2) Requirements for the operation, coordination, and  
80 ongoing development of emergency medical services, which  
81 includes: basic life support or advanced life support vehicles,  
82 equipment, and supplies; communications; personnel; training;  
83 public education; state trauma system; injury control; and other  
84 medical care components.

85 (3) The definition of areas of responsibility for  
 86 regulating and planning the ongoing and developing delivery  
 87 service requirements.

88 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (12) of section 401.27,  
 89 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

90 401.27 Personnel; standards and certification.—

91 (4) An applicant for certification or recertification as  
 92 an emergency medical technician or paramedic must:

93 (a) Have completed an appropriate training course as  
 94 follows:

95 1. For an emergency medical technician, an emergency  
 96 medical technician training course equivalent to the most recent  
 97 National EMS Education Standards ~~emergency medical technician~~  
 98 ~~basic training course~~ of the United States Department of  
 99 Transportation as approved by the department;

100 2. For a paramedic, a paramedic training program  
 101 equivalent to the most recent national standard curriculum or  
 102 National EMS Education Standards ~~paramedic course~~ of the United  
 103 States Department of Transportation as approved by the  
 104 department;

105 (b) Certify under oath that he or she is not addicted to  
 106 alcohol or any controlled substance;

107 (c) Certify under oath that he or she is free from any  
 108 physical or mental defect or disease that might impair the  
 109 applicant's ability to perform his or her duties;

110 (d) Within 2 years ~~1 year~~ after course completion have  
 111 passed an examination developed or required by the department;

112 (e)1. For an emergency medical technician, hold ~~either~~ a

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113 current American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
114 course card or an American Red Cross cardiopulmonary  
115 resuscitation course card or its equivalent as defined by  
116 department rule;

117 2. For a paramedic, hold a certificate of successful  
118 course completion in advanced cardiac life support from the  
119 American Heart Association or its equivalent as defined by  
120 department rule;

121 (f) Submit the certification fee and the nonrefundable  
122 examination fee prescribed in s. 401.34, which examination fee  
123 will be required for each examination administered to an  
124 applicant; and

125 (g) Submit a completed application to the department,  
126 which application documents compliance with paragraphs (a), (b),  
127 (c), (e), (f), (g), and, if applicable, (d). The application  
128 must be submitted so as to be received by the department at  
129 least 30 calendar days before the next regularly scheduled  
130 examination for which the applicant desires to be scheduled.

131 (12) An applicant for certification who is an out-of-state  
132 trained emergency medical technician or paramedic must provide  
133 proof of current emergency medical technician or paramedic  
134 certification or registration based upon successful completion  
135 of the United States Department of Transportation emergency  
136 medical technician or paramedic training curriculum or the  
137 National EMS Education Standards as approved by the department  
138 and hold a current certificate of successful course completion  
139 in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or advanced cardiac life  
140 support for emergency medical technicians or paramedics,

141 | respectively, to be eligible for the certification examination.  
 142 | The applicant must successfully complete the certification  
 143 | examination within 1 year after the date of the receipt of his  
 144 | or her application by the department. After 1 year, the  
 145 | applicant must submit a new application, meet all eligibility  
 146 | requirements, and submit all fees to reestablish eligibility to  
 147 | take the certification examination.

148 | Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection  
 149 | (5) of section 401.2701, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

150 | 401.2701 Emergency medical services training programs.—

151 | (1) Any private or public institution in Florida desiring  
 152 | to conduct an approved program for the education of emergency  
 153 | medical technicians and paramedics shall:

154 | (a) Submit a completed application on a form provided by  
 155 | the department, which must include:

156 | 1. Evidence that the institution is in compliance with all  
 157 | applicable requirements of the Department of Education.

158 | 2. Evidence of an affiliation agreement with a hospital  
 159 | that has an emergency department staffed by at least one  
 160 | physician and one registered nurse.

161 | 3. Evidence of an affiliation agreement with a current  
 162 | ~~Florida-licensed~~ emergency medical services provider that is  
 163 | licensed in this state. Such agreement shall include, at a  
 164 | minimum, a commitment by the provider to conduct the field  
 165 | experience portion of the education program.

166 | 4. Documentation verifying faculty, including:

167 | a. A medical director who is a licensed physician meeting  
 168 | the applicable requirements for emergency medical services

169 | medical directors as outlined in this chapter and rules of the  
 170 | department. The medical director shall have the duty and  
 171 | responsibility of certifying that graduates have successfully  
 172 | completed all phases of the education program and are proficient  
 173 | in basic or advanced life support techniques, as applicable.

174 |       b. A program director responsible for the operation,  
 175 | organization, periodic review, administration, development, and  
 176 | approval of the program.

177 |       5. Documentation verifying that the curriculum:

178 |       a. Meets the ~~course guides and instructor's lesson plans~~  
 179 | ~~in the~~ most recent Emergency Medical Technician-Basic National  
 180 | Standard Curricula or the National EMS Education Standards for  
 181 | emergency medical technician programs and paramedic ~~Emergency~~  
 182 | ~~Medical Technician-Paramedic National Standard Curricula for~~  
 183 | ~~paramedic~~ programs as approved by the department.

184 |       b. Includes 2 hours of instruction on the trauma scorecard  
 185 | methodologies for assessment of adult trauma patients and  
 186 | pediatric trauma patients as specified by the department by  
 187 | rule.

188 |       ~~e. Includes 4 hours of instruction on HIV/AIDS training~~  
 189 | ~~consistent with the requirements of chapter 381.~~

190 |       6. Evidence of sufficient medical and educational  
 191 | equipment to meet emergency medical services training program  
 192 | needs.

193 |       (5) Each approved program must notify the department  
 194 | within 30 days after ~~of~~ any change in the professional or  
 195 | employment status of faculty. Each approved program must require  
 196 | its students to pass a comprehensive final written and practical

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197 examination evaluating the skills described in the current  
198 United States Department of Transportation EMT-Basic or EMT-  
199 Paramedic, National Standard Curriculum or the National EMS  
200 Education Standards as approved by the department. Each approved  
201 program must issue a certificate of completion to program  
202 graduates within 14 days after ~~of~~ completion.

203 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.