

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to emergency medical services
 3 community health care; amending s. 401.272, F.S.;
 4 authorizing paramedics to administer other public
 5 health countermeasures under certain circumstances;
 6 requiring a written agreement between the paramedic's
 7 medical director and the Department of Health;
 8 requiring that such medical director verify and
 9 document that the paramedic is qualified to administer
 10 other public health countermeasures; amending s.
 11 401.265, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made
 12 by the act; providing an effective date.

13
 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 401.265, Florida
 17 Statutes, is amended to read:

18 401.265 Medical directors.—

19 (4) Each medical director who uses a paramedic or an
 20 emergency medical technician to perform blood pressure
 21 screenings and ~~screening,~~ health promotion~~,~~ and wellness
 22 activities, or a paramedic to administer immunizations or other
 23 public health countermeasures ~~immunization~~ on a ~~any~~ patient
 24 under a protocol as specified in s. 401.272, which is not in the
 25 provision of emergency care, is liable for any act or omission

26 | of a ~~any~~ paramedic or an emergency medical technician acting
27 | under his or her supervision and control when performing such
28 | services.

29 | Section 2. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section
30 | 401.272, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

31 | 401.272 Emergency medical services community health care.—

32 | (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
33 | contrary:

34 | (a) Paramedics or emergency medical technicians may
35 | perform health promotion and wellness activities and blood
36 | pressure screenings in a nonemergency environment, within the
37 | scope of their training, and under the direction of a medical
38 | director. As used in this paragraph, the term "health promotion
39 | and wellness" means the provision of public health programs
40 | pertaining to the prevention or reduction of illness and injury.

41 | (b) Paramedics may administer immunizations or other
42 | public health countermeasures in a nonemergency environment,
43 | within the scope of their training, and under the direction of a
44 | medical director. There must be a written agreement between the
45 | paramedic's medical director and the department or the county
46 | health department located in each county in which the paramedic
47 | administers immunizations or other public health
48 | countermeasures. This agreement must establish the protocols,
49 | policies, and procedures under which the paramedic must operate.

50 | (3) Each medical director under whose direction a

51 | paramedic administers immunizations or other public health
52 | countermeasures must verify and document that the paramedic has
53 | received sufficient training and experience to administer
54 | immunizations or other public health countermeasures. The
55 | verification must be documented on forms developed by the
56 | department, and the completed forms must be maintained at the
57 | service location of the licensee and made available to the
58 | department upon request.

59 | (4) The department may adopt and enforce all rules
60 | necessary to enforce the provisions relating to a paramedic's
61 | administration of immunizations or other public health
62 | countermeasures and the performance of health promotion and
63 | wellness activities and blood pressure screenings by a paramedic
64 | or emergency medical technician in a nonemergency environment.

65 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.