

CHAPTER 96

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE BILL 07-1259

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Frangas, Lambert, McGihon, Roberts, Stafford, Swalm, and Witwer;
also SENATOR(S) Sandoval, and Boyd.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF AIR AMBULANCE SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 25-3.5-307 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

25-3.5-307. Licensure of fixed-wing and rotor-wing air ambulances - cash fund created - rules. (1) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), PRIOR TO BEGINNING AIR AMBULANCE OPERATIONS IN THIS STATE, all fixed-wing and rotor-wing air ambulance services shall be licensed by the department. Successful completion of an accreditation process as established and updated by the commission on accreditation of medical transport systems ("CAMTS") or a successor organization is required for FULL licensure and renewal of such license by the department for all fixed-wing and rotor-wing air ambulance services. ~~All fixed-wing and rotor-wing air ambulance services licensed by the department shall obtain accreditation from CAMTS or from a successor organization no later than July 1, 2007~~ THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A CONDITIONAL LICENSE TO AN AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE THAT HAS NOT COMPLETED CAMTS ACCREDITATION IF THE SERVICE IS ACTIVELY WORKING TOWARD CAMTS ACCREDITATION. AN AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE THAT RECEIVES A CONDITIONAL LICENSE SHALL COMPLETE ITS CAMTS ACCREDITATION WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE CONDITIONAL LICENSE. IF AN AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE TO WHICH A CONDITIONAL LICENSE HAS BEEN ISSUED FAILS TO COMPLETE THE CAMTS ACCREDITATION PROCESS WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE INITIAL CONDITIONAL LICENSE, THE CONDITIONAL LICENSE SHALL BE REVOKED, AND THE AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE SHALL NOT BE ISSUED ANY TYPE OF LICENSE UNTIL IT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES THE CAMTS ACCREDITATION PROCESS.

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

(b) UPON A SHOWING OF EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES, AS DEFINED BY THE BOARD, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AUTHORIZE AN UNLICENSED AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE TO PROVIDE A PARTICULAR TRANSPORT.

(c) The board shall promulgate rules specifying additional licensure requirements, establishing a reasonable fee for licensure, DEFINING EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES FOR PURPOSES OF THE EXCEPTION IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), and specifying the procedure and grounds for the suspension, revocation, or denial of a license. Such rules shall include the process used to investigate complaints against an air ambulance service and procedures for data collection and reporting to the department by an air ambulance service; except that complaints that are related to the requirements of CAMTS or a successor organization shall be referred to CAMTS or such successor organization for investigation. The ~~board~~ DEPARTMENT shall consider the results of such investigations in making licensure decisions concerning air ambulance services.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 2, 2007