

1 **Emergency Medical Services Modifications**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens

House Sponsor:

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill addresses ground ambulance interfacility transport services.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ directs and grants exclusive authority to municipalities and counties to ensure that a
9 minimum level of ground ambulance interfacility transport services are provided within
10 the respective municipality or county;

11 ▶ removes the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Management (bureau) from the
12 processes related to a municipality's or county's selection of emergency medical service
13 providers, except for a notice that an applicant emergency medical service provider
14 meets minimum requirements;

15 ▶ recognizes the bureau's jurisdiction to discipline non-911 service providers;

16 ▶ grants investigative authority to the bureau;

17 ▶ makes it a class B misdemeanor to willfully disobey a valid subpoena or cease and desist
18 letter from the bureau; and

19 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

20 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

21 None

22 **Other Special Clauses:**

23 None

24 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

25 AMENDS:

26 **11-48-103**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 506

27 **53-2d-103**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310 and
28 last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 307

29 **53-2d-505**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

30 **53-2d-604**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

31 **53-2d-607**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310 and
 32 last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 307

33 ENACTS:

34 **53-2d-606.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

35 REPEALS:

36 **53-2d-505.1**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

37 **53-2d-505.2**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 16 and renumbered and
 38 amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

39 **53-2d-505.3**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 435 and renumbered and
 40 amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

41 **53-2d-505.4**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310 and
 42 last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 307

43 **53-2d-505.5**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

44 **53-2d-506**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

45 **53-2d-507**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

46 **53-2d-508**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 307, 310

47 **53-2d-509**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 147

48

49 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

50 Section 1. Section **11-48-103** is amended to read:

51 **11-48-103 . Provision of ambulance services in municipalities and counties.**

52 (1) The governing body of each municipality and county has exclusive authority to and
 53 shall, subject to Title 53, Chapter 2d, Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers,
 54 ensure at least a minimum level of 911 ambulance services and ground ambulance
 55 interfacility transport services are provided:

56 (a) within the territorial limits of the municipality or county;

57 (b) by a ground ambulance provider, licensed by the Bureau of Emergency Medical
 58 Services under Title 53, Chapter 2d, Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers; and

59 (c) in accordance with rules established by the Trauma System and Emergency Medical
 60 Services Committee under Section 53-2d-105.

61 (2) A municipality or county may:

62 (a) [~~subject to Subsection (3),~~] provide, maintain, and support 911 ambulance services
 63 for the municipality's or county's own jurisdiction; or

64 (b) [~~contract to:~~] enter into an interlocal agreement or procurement contract with a public

65 or private entity to provide, receive, support, or maintain, 911 ambulance services or
 66 ground ambulance interfacility transport services, under any arrangement and to any
 67 extent that the municipality or county determines.

68 [~~(i) provide 911 ambulance services to any county, municipal corporation, special~~
 69 ~~district, special service district, interlocal entity, private corporation, nonprofit~~
 70 ~~corporation, state agency, or federal agency;]~~

71 [~~(ii) receive 911 ambulance services from any county, municipal corporation, special~~
 72 ~~district, special service district, interlocal entity, private corporation, nonprofit~~
 73 ~~corporation, state agency, or federal agency;]~~

74 [~~(iii) jointly provide 911 ambulance services with any county, municipal corporation,~~
 75 ~~special district, special service district, interlocal entity, private corporation,~~
 76 ~~nonprofit corporation, state agency, or federal agency; or]~~

77 [~~(iv) contribute toward the support of 911 ambulance services in any county,~~
 78 ~~municipal corporation, special district, special service district, interlocal entity,~~
 79 ~~private corporation, nonprofit corporation, state agency, or federal agency in~~
 80 ~~return for 911 ambulance services.]~~

81 (3)[~~(a)~~] A municipality or county that provides, maintains, and supports 911 ambulance
 82 services for the municipality's or county's own jurisdiction under Subsection (2)(a)
 83 shall obtain a license as a ground ambulance provider from the Bureau of Emergency
 84 Medical Services under Title 53, Chapter 2d, Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic
 85 Providers.

86 [~~(b) Sections 53-2d-505 through 53-2d-505.3 do not apply to a license described in~~
 87 ~~Subsection (3)(a).]~~

88 Section 2. Section **53-2d-103** is amended to read:

89 **53-2d-103 . Bureau duties -- Data sharing.**

90 (1) The bureau shall:

- 91 (a) coordinate the emergency medical services within the state;
- 92 (b) administer and enforce any programs and applicable rules created under this chapter;
- 93 (c) establish a voluntary task force representing a diversity of emergency medical
 94 service providers to advise the bureau and the committee on rules;
- 95 (d) establish an emergency medical service personnel peer review board to advise the
 96 bureau concerning discipline of emergency medical service personnel under this
 97 chapter; and
- 98 (e) adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative

- 99 Rulemaking Act, to:
- 100 (i) license ambulance providers and paramedic providers;
- 101 (ii) permit ambulances, emergency medical response vehicles, and nonemergency
- 102 secured behavioral health transport vehicles, including approving an emergency
- 103 vehicle operator's course in accordance with Section 53-2d-404;
- 104 (iii) establish:
- 105 (A) the qualifications for membership of the peer review board created by this
- 106 section;
- 107 (B) a process for placing restrictions on a license while an investigation is pending;
- 108 (C) the process for the investigation and recommendation by the peer review
- 109 board; and
- 110 (D) the process for determining the status of a license while a peer review board
- 111 investigation is pending;
- 112 (iv) establish application, submission, and procedural requirements for licenses,
- 113 designations, and permits; and
- 114 (v) establish and implement the programs, plans, and responsibilities as specified in
- 115 other sections of this chapter.
- 116 (2)(a) The bureau shall share data related to the bureau's duties with the Department of
- 117 Health and Human Services.
- 118 (b) The Department of Health and Human Services shall share data related to the
- 119 bureau's duties with the bureau.
- 120 (c) All data collected by the bureau under this chapter is subject to Title 26B, Chapter 8,
- 121 Part 4, Health Statistics, including data privacy protections.
- 122 Section 3. Section **53-2d-505** is amended to read:
- 123 **53-2d-505 . Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses.**
- 124 [(+) If the bureau determines that the application meets the minimum requirements for
- 125 licensure under Section 53-2d-504, the bureau shall issue a notice of the approved
- 126 application to the applicant.
- 127 [~~(2) A current license holder responding to a request for proposal under Section 53-2d-505.2~~
- 128 ~~is considered an approved applicant for purposes of Section 53-2d-505.2 if the current~~
- 129 ~~license holder, prior to responding to the request for proposal, submits the following to~~
- 130 ~~the department:]~~
- 131 [(a) the information described in Subsections 53-2d-504(4)(a)(i) through (iii); and]
- 132 [(b)(i) if the license holder is a private entity, a financial statement, a pro forma

133 ~~budget and necessary letters of credit demonstrating a financial ability to expand~~
 134 ~~service to a new service area; or]~~

135 ~~[(ii) if the license holder is a governmental entity, a letter from the governmental~~
 136 ~~entity's governing body demonstrating the governing body's willingness to~~
 137 ~~financially support the application.]~~

138 Section 4. Section **53-2d-604** is amended to read:

139 **53-2d-604 . Discipline of designated and licensed providers.**

140 (1) The bureau may refuse to issue a license or designation or a renewal, or revoke,
 141 suspend, restrict, or place on probation, ~~[an]~~ any emergency medical service provider's
 142 license or designation, including the license or designation of a non-911 service provider,
 143 if the provider has:

- 144 (a) failed to abide by terms of the license or designation;
- 145 (b) violated statute or rule;
- 146 (c) failed to provide services at the level or in the exclusive geographic service area
 147 required by the license or designation;
- 148 (d) failed to submit a renewal application in a timely fashion as required by department
 149 rule;
- 150 (e) failed to follow operational standards established by the committee; or
- 151 (f) committed an act in the performance of a professional duty that endangered the
 152 public or constituted gross negligence.

153 (2)(a) An action to revoke, suspend, restrict, or place a license or designation on
 154 probation shall be done in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative
 155 Procedures Act.

156 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), the department may issue a cease and desist
 157 order under Section 53-2d-607 to immediately suspend a license or designation
 158 pending an administrative proceeding to be held within 30 days if there is evidence to
 159 show that the provider or facility poses a clear, immediate, and unjustifiable threat or
 160 potential threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.

161 Section 5. Section **53-2d-606.5** is enacted to read:

162 **53-2d-606.5 . Investigative authority of the bureau -- Subpoenas -- Criminal**
 163 **penalty.**

164 (1) In connection with conducting a formal investigation or any matters pending before the
 165 peer review board, the bureau may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena
 166 witnesses, take evidence, and require by subpoena duces tecum the production of

167 relevant papers, records, or other documents or information.

168 (2) A person who willfully disobeys a valid subpoena issued by the bureau is guilty of a
169 class B misdemeanor.

170 Section 6. Section **53-2d-607** is amended to read:

171 **53-2d-607 . Cease and desist letters -- Criminal penalty.**

172 (1) The bureau may issue a cease and desist order to any person who:

173 [(1)] (a) may be disciplined under Section 53-2d-603 or 53-2d-604; or

174 [(2)] (b) otherwise violates this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.

175 (2) An individual who willfully disobeys a valid cease and desist letter issued by the bureau
176 is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

177 Section 7. **Repealer.**

178 This bill repeals:

179 Section **53-2d-505.1, Selection of provider by political subdivision.**

180 Section **53-2d-505.2, Selection of provider -- Request for competitive sealed proposal --**
181 **Public convenience and necessity.**

182 Section **53-2d-505.3, Use of competitive sealed proposals -- Procedure -- Appeal rights.**

183 Section **53-2d-505.4, Non-911 provider -- Finding of meritorious complaint -- Request**
184 **for proposals.**

185 Section **53-2d-505.5, Use of competitive sealed proposals -- Procedure -- Appeal rights.**

186 Section **53-2d-506, Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Parties.**

187 Section **53-2d-507, Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Proceedings.**

188 Section **53-2d-508, Criteria for determining public convenience and necessity.**

189 Section **53-2d-509, Ground ambulance and paramedic licenses -- Hearing and presiding**
190 **officers.**

191 Section 8. **Effective Date.**

192 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.