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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 2736

03/08/2023

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to emergency medical services; modifying requirements for licensure and

1.3 license renewal of ambulance services; requiring permits from municipalities to

1.4 provide service in a primary service area; requiring rulemaking to modify primary

1.5 service areas; requiring the establishment of performance standards; amending

1.6 Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 144E.001, subdivision 10, by adding a

1.7 subdivision; 144E.06; 144E.10; 144E.11, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; 144E.14;

1.8 144E.31, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,

1.9 chapter 144E; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 144E.07; 144E.11,

1.10 subdivision 9.

1.11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.12 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.001, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

1.13 Subd. 10. **Primary service area.** "Primary service area" means the geographic area ~~that~~

1.14 ~~can reasonably be served by~~ with the boundaries established by the board under section

1.15 144E.06, in which an ambulance service provides services.

1.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

1.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.001, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.18 to read:

1.19 Subd. 12a. **Response time.** "Response time" means the period from the time a public

1.20 safety answering point receives a call for emergency services to the time the ambulance,

1.21 staffed according to the applicable requirements in section 144E.101 for the type of

1.22 ambulance service being provided, arrives at the patient's location to provide emergency

1.23 services.

2.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.06, is amended to read:

2.2 **144E.06 PRIMARY SERVICE AREAS.**

2.3 Subdivision 1. **Modifications to boundaries.** The board shall adopt rules defining
 2.4 modifying the boundaries of the primary service areas under which the board shall designate
 2.5 each licensed ambulance service as serving a primary service area or areas. in effect as of
 2.6 the effective date of this subdivision so that the boundaries of each primary service area
 2.7 correspond with:

2.8 (1) the boundaries of a special taxing district established according to section 144F.01
 2.9 to provide emergency medical services; or

2.10 (2) for an area without a special taxing district described in clause (1), the boundaries
 2.11 of one or more municipalities.

2.12 Subd. 2. **Reporting changes.** The board must notify the applicable local public safety
 2.13 answering point coordinators of changes in primary service area boundaries.

2.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 1 is effective the day following final enactment.

2.15 Sec. 4. **[144E.065] PRIMARY SERVICE AREA PERMIT.**

2.16 Subdivision 1. **Permit required.** Except as provided in section 144E.101, subdivision
 2.17 12 or 13, an ambulance service must not provide services in a primary service area unless
 2.18 the ambulance service has a permit issued under this section.

2.19 Subd. 2. **Local permit.** (a) Each municipality may issue a permit to one ambulance
 2.20 service to authorize the ambulance service to provide services in the primary service area
 2.21 in which the municipality is located.

2.22 (b) One or more municipalities may enter into an agreement to issue a joint permit to
 2.23 one ambulance service to provide services in the primary service areas in which the
 2.24 municipalities that entered into the joint agreement are located.

2.25 (c) The municipality or municipalities must establish requirements for the following:

2.26 (1) procedures for issuing a permit;

2.27 (2) criteria to be used when considering whether to issue a permit;

2.28 (3) circumstances under which a permit may be revoked; and

2.29 (4) procedures for renewing a permit and for revoking a permit.

3.1 (d) The municipality or municipalities may charge a fee for permit applications, issuance
3.2 of a permit, and renewal of a permit.

3.3 Subd. 3. **Expiration; renewal.** Unless a permit issued under this section is revoked, the
3.4 permit is valid for the licensure period of the ambulance service that received the permit.
3.5 At least 90 days before a permit expires, an ambulance service that wishes to renew its
3.6 permit must apply for renewal according to procedures established by the issuing municipality
3.7 or municipalities. An ambulance service that does not wish to renew its permit must notify
3.8 the issuing municipality or municipalities at least 90 days before its permit expires.

3.9 Subd. 4. **Reports.** (a) An ambulance service must notify the board when the ambulance
3.10 service obtains a permit under subdivision 2 and when the permit expires, is renewed, or is
3.11 revoked. This notice must be provided in a time and manner specified by the board.

3.12 (b) The board must notify the applicable local public safety answering point coordinator
3.13 of the ambulance service that obtains a permit under this section and when the permit expires,
3.14 is renewed, or is revoked.

3.15 Subd. 5. **Date certain; board issuance of permit.** (a) By and on an ongoing basis
3.16 thereafter, the board shall ensure that each primary service area in the state is receiving
3.17 services from one ambulance service under a permit.

3.18 (b) The board shall issue a permit to one ambulance service to provide services in a
3.19 primary service area for which a permit has not been issued by a municipality or
3.20 municipalities, as determined by the board. The board may revoke a permit issued under
3.21 this subdivision according to procedures established by the board. Before the board renews
3.22 a permit issued under this subdivision, the ambulance service that obtained a permit under
3.23 this subdivision must apply to the applicable municipality or municipalities for a permit
3.24 under subdivision 2. The board shall renew a permit issued under this subdivision only if
3.25 necessary to prevent a primary service area from being without services.

3.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

3.27 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.10, is amended to read:

3.28 **144E.10 AMBULANCE SERVICE LICENSING.**

3.29 Subdivision 1. **License required.** No natural person, partnership, association, corporation,
3.30 or unit of government may operate an ambulance service within this state unless it possesses
3.31 a valid license to do so issued by the board. The license shall specify the base of operations,
3.32 the primary service area or areas for which the licensee holds a permit to provide services,
3.33 and the type or types of ambulance service for which the licensee is licensed. The licensee

4.1 shall obtain a new license if it wishes ~~to expand its primary service area, or~~ to provide a
 4.2 new type or types of service.

4.3 Subd. 2. **Requirements for new licenses.** The board shall not issue a license authorizing
 4.4 the operation of a new ambulance service, or provision of a new type or types of ambulance
 4.5 service by an existing service, ~~or an expanded primary service area for an existing service~~
 4.6 unless the requirements of this section and sections 144E.101 to 144E.127 and 144E.18 are
 4.7 met.

4.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

4.9 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.10 Subdivision 1. **Written application.** Each prospective licensee and each present licensee
 4.11 wishing to offer a new type or types of ambulance service ~~or to expand a primary service~~
 4.12 ~~area~~ shall make written application for a license to the board on a form provided by the
 4.13 board.

4.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

4.15 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.16 Subd. 2. **Application notice.** The board shall promptly send notice of the completed
 4.17 application to each county board, ~~community health board, governing body of a regional~~
 4.18 ~~emergency medical services system designated under section 144E.50, ambulance service,~~
 4.19 and municipality in the area in which ~~ambulance service would be provided by the applicant~~
 4.20 the applicant plans to apply for a permit under section 144E.065 to provide services. The
 4.21 board shall publish the notice, at the applicant's expense, in the State Register and in a
 4.22 newspaper in the municipality in which the base of operation is or will be located, or if no
 4.23 newspaper is published in the municipality or if the service is or would be provided in more
 4.24 than one municipality, in a newspaper published at the county seat of the county or counties
 4.25 in which the service would be provided.

4.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

4.27 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

4.28 Subd. 3. **Comments.** Each municipality, county, ~~community health board, governing~~
 4.29 ~~body of a regional emergency medical services system,~~ ambulance service, and other person
 4.30 wishing to make recommendations concerning the disposition of the application shall make

5.1 written recommendations or comments opposing the application to the board within 30 days
5.2 of the publication of notice of the application in the State Register.

5.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

5.4 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

5.5 Subd. 4. **Contested case exemption; procedure.** (a) If no more than five written
5.6 comments opposing the application have been received by the board under subdivision 3,
5.7 and the board has determined, after considering the ~~factors listed~~ requirements established
5.8 under subdivision 6, that the proposed service ~~or expansion of primary service area~~ is needed,
5.9 the applicant shall be exempt from the contested case hearing process under subdivision 5.

5.10 (b) An applicant exempted from a contested case hearing under this subdivision shall
5.11 furnish additional information, as requested by the board, to support its application. The
5.12 board shall approve the application and grant a license to the applicant within 30 days after
5.13 final submission of requested information to the board, and upon a determination by the
5.14 board that the applicant is in compliance with the rules adopted by the board and with the
5.15 inspection requirements of section 144E.18.

5.16 (c) If an applicant does not comply with the inspection requirements under section
5.17 144E.18 within one year of the board's approval of its application, the license shall be denied.
5.18 The one-year time limit applies to any licensing decision made by the board or to any prior
5.19 licensing decision made by the commissioner of health or an administrative law judge.

5.20 (d) If, after considering the ~~factors~~ requirements established under subdivision 6, the
5.21 board determines that the proposed service ~~or expansion of primary service area~~ is not
5.22 needed, the case shall be treated as a contested case under subdivision 5, paragraphs (c) to
5.23 (g).

5.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

5.25 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

5.26 Subd. 5. **Contested case; procedure.** (a) If more than five written comments opposing
5.27 the application are received by the board as specified under subdivision 3, the board shall
5.28 give the applicant the option of immediately proceeding to a contested case hearing or trying
5.29 to resolve the objections within 30 days.

5.30 (b) If, after considering the ~~factors~~ requirements established under subdivision 6, the
5.31 board determines that the proposed service ~~or expansion of primary service area~~ is not
5.32 needed, the board shall give the applicant the option of immediately proceeding to a contested

6.1 case hearing or using up to 30 days to satisfy the board that the proposed service ~~or expansion~~
6.2 ~~of primary service area~~ is needed.

6.3 (c) The board shall request that the chief administrative law judge appoint an
6.4 administrative law judge to hold a public hearing in the municipality in which the applicant's
6.5 base of operation is or will be located:

6.6 (1) if more than five opposing comments remain after 30 days;

6.7 (2) if, after considering the ~~factors~~ requirements established under subdivision 6, the
6.8 board determines that the proposed service ~~or expansion of primary service area~~ is not
6.9 needed after 30 days; or

6.10 (3) at the applicant's initial request.

6.11 (d) If the applicant's base of operation is located outside of Minnesota, the hearing shall
6.12 be held at a location within the area in which service would be provided in Minnesota. The
6.13 public hearing shall be conducted as a contested case hearing under chapter 14. The board
6.14 shall pay the expenses for the hearing location and the administrative law judge.

6.15 (e) The board shall provide notice of the public hearing, at the applicant's expense, in
6.16 the State Register and in the newspaper or newspapers in which the notice was published
6.17 under subdivision 2 for two successive weeks at least ten days before the date of the hearing.

6.18 (f) The administrative law judge shall:

6.19 (1) hold a public hearing as specified in paragraphs (c) and (d);

6.20 (2) allow any interested person the opportunity to be heard, to be represented by counsel,
6.21 and to present oral and written evidence at the public hearing; and

6.22 (3) provide a transcript of the hearing at the expense of any individual requesting it.

6.23 (g) The administrative law judge shall review and comment upon the application and
6.24 make written recommendations as to its disposition to the board within 90 days of publication
6.25 of notice of the hearing in the State Register. In making the recommendations, the
6.26 administrative law judge shall consider and make written comments as to whether the
6.27 proposed service ~~or expansion in primary service area~~ is needed, based on consideration of
6.28 the ~~factors specified in~~ requirements established under subdivision 6.

6.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

7.1 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

7.2 Subd. 6. **Review criteria Requirements.** When reviewing an application for licensure,
7.3 the board and administrative law judge shall consider ~~the following factors:~~ the extent to
7.4 which the applicant meets requirements for licensure established by the board and
7.5 municipalities.

7.6 ~~(1) the recommendations or comments of the governing bodies of the counties,~~
7.7 ~~municipalities, community health boards, and regional emergency medical services system~~
7.8 ~~designated under section 144E.50 in which the service would be provided;~~

7.9 ~~(2) the deleterious effects on the public health from duplication, if any, of ambulance~~
7.10 ~~services that would result from granting the license;~~

7.11 ~~(3) the estimated effect of the proposed service or expansion in primary service area on~~
7.12 ~~the public health; and~~

7.13 ~~(4) whether any benefit accruing to the public health would outweigh the costs associated~~
7.14 ~~with the proposed service or expansion in primary service area. The administrative law~~
7.15 ~~judge shall recommend that the board either grant or deny a license or recommend that a~~
7.16 ~~modified license be granted. The reasons for the recommendation shall be set forth in detail.~~
7.17 ~~The administrative law judge shall make the recommendations and reasons available to any~~
7.18 ~~individual requesting them.~~

7.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

7.20 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

7.21 Subd. 7. **Licensing decision.** (a) After receiving the administrative law judge's report,
7.22 the board shall approve or deny the application and grant the license within 60 days if the
7.23 application is approved, and upon determination by the board, that the applicant is in
7.24 compliance with the rules adopted by the board and with the inspection requirements of
7.25 section 144E.18.

7.26 (b) In approving or denying an application, the board shall consider the administrative
7.27 law judge's report, the evidence contained in the application, and any hearing record and
7.28 other applicable evidence. The board's decision shall be based on ~~a consideration of the~~
7.29 ~~factors contained in~~ the requirements established under subdivision 6.

7.30 (c) If the board determines to grant the applicant a license, the applicant must comply
7.31 with the inspection requirements under 144E.18 within one year of the board's approval of
7.32 the application or the license will be denied. This one-year time limit applies to any licensing

8.1 decision by the board or to any prior licensing decision made by the commissioner of health
8.2 or an administrative law judge.

8.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

8.4 Sec. 13. **[144E.115] RENEWAL OF AMBULANCE SERVICE LICENSE.**

8.5 Subdivision 1. **Expiration of license; license renewal.** An ambulance service license
8.6 expires two years after the date of issuance. An ambulance service that wishes to renew its
8.7 license must submit the following to the board at least 90 days before the license expires:

8.8 (1) an application for license renewal;

8.9 (2) the report on performance standards required under section 144E.124, subdivision
8.10 5;

8.11 (3) any supporting materials required by the board; and

8.12 (4) the fee for license renewal required under section 144E.29.

8.13 Subd. 2. **Renewal application notice.** Upon receiving an application for license renewal,
8.14 the board shall promptly send notice of the application to the county board of each county
8.15 that partially or wholly includes the primary service area of the ambulance service seeking
8.16 license renewal, and to the governing body of each municipality in a primary service area
8.17 served by the ambulance service seeking license renewal.

8.18 Subd. 3. **Review of performance standards; recommendation to board.** (a) Each
8.19 county board and municipality that receives notice under subdivision 2 may:

8.20 (1) review the performance standards report submitted by the applicant for the current
8.21 licensure period; and

8.22 (2) submit to the board, at a time and in a manner specified by the board, a
8.23 recommendation or comment as to whether the board should renew or not renew the
8.24 ambulance service's license.

8.25 (b) An ambulance service or other person may submit to the board, at a time and in a
8.26 manner specified by the board, a recommendation or comment as to whether the board
8.27 should renew or not renew the ambulance service's license.

8.28 Subd. 4. **Review by board.** Before approving or denying an application for license
8.29 renewal, the board must review:

8.30 (1) the information in the renewal application and any supporting materials provided;

9.1 (2) the results of the most recent on-site inspection of the ambulance service conducted
 9.2 by the board;

9.3 (3) the ambulance service's performance in serving its primary service area, as measured
 9.4 by performance standards;

9.5 (4) recommendations or comments provided under subdivision 3; and

9.6 (5) other information identified by the board regarding whether the ambulance service
 9.7 is operating in substantial compliance with sections 144E.001 to 144E.33 and rules adopted
 9.8 under those sections.

9.9 Subd. 5. **Decision.** The board may renew an ambulance service's license if the board
 9.10 determines, based on a review of the information in subdivision 4, that the ambulance service
 9.11 is operating in substantial compliance with sections 144E.001 to 144E.33 and rules adopted
 9.12 under those sections, is meeting the needs of patients in the ambulance service's primary
 9.13 service area, and is providing care of acceptable quality as measured by performance
 9.14 standards. The board's decision under this subdivision shall be the final administrative
 9.15 decision. Any person aggrieved by the board's decision is entitled to judicial review as
 9.16 provided in sections 14.63 to 14.69.

9.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

9.18 Sec. 14. **[144E.124] PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

9.19 Subdivision 1. **Establishment of performance standards.** The board shall adopt rules
 9.20 establishing performance standards for ambulance services. The performance standards
 9.21 must include quality assurance metrics.

9.22 Subd. 2. **Collection and maintenance of data on performance standards.** A licensee
 9.23 must collect and maintain, in a manner specified by the board, data on performance standards
 9.24 established by the board.

9.25 Subd. 3. **Quarterly reports to municipalities.** (a) Each quarter, a licensee must report
 9.26 to each municipality in a primary service area served by the licensee and to the county board
 9.27 for each county in which a primary service area served by the licensee is located, on the
 9.28 licensee's compliance with performance standards established by the board. The quarterly
 9.29 report must be filed at a time and in a manner specified by the board and must include at
 9.30 least the following data for the reporting period, broken out by municipality from which
 9.31 the call originated:

9.32 (1) the number of calls;

10.1 (2) an ambulance's response mode as emergency response or nonemergency response
 10.2 for each call;

10.3 (3) the response time for each call;

10.4 (4) the percentage of calls in which the patient was transported to an emergency
 10.5 department or health care facility; and

10.6 (5) the destinations to which patients were transported.

10.7 (b) The quarterly report must also include the following information for the reporting
 10.8 period:

10.9 (1) the fee schedule for services provided by the licensee;

10.10 (2) the number of ambulances staffed by time of day and day of the week, broken out
 10.11 by municipality in which the ambulance was stationed during the reporting period;

10.12 (3) mutual aid provided by the licensee and mutual aid provided to the licensee; and

10.13 (4) performance as measured by quality assurance metrics.

10.14 Subd. 4. **Public posting of fee schedule.** A municipality must post or make available
 10.15 the fee schedule received from a licensee under subdivision 3, in a manner that allows the
 10.16 public to review the fee schedule.

10.17 Subd. 5. **Biennial report.** As part of a licensee's application for license renewal, a
 10.18 licensee must submit to the board a report on the licensee's compliance with performance
 10.19 standards established by the board. This report must be filed in a format specified by the
 10.20 board and must include at least the data specified in subdivision 3.

10.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 1 is effective the day following final enactment.
 10.22 Subdivisions 2 to 5 are effective July 1, 2025.

10.23 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.14, is amended to read:

10.24 **144E.14 TRANSFER OF LICENSE OR BASE OF OPERATIONS; CHANGE OF**
 10.25 **OWNERSHIP OR PROVIDER.**

10.26 Subdivision 1. **Transfer of license prohibited.** ~~A~~ An ambulance service license, or the
 10.27 ownership of a licensed ambulance service, may ~~must not~~ be transferred only upon approval
 10.28 of the board, based upon a finding that the proposed licensee or proposed new owner of a
 10.29 licensed ambulance service meets or will meet the requirements of sections 144E.101 to
 10.30 144E.127. If the proposed transfer would result in an addition of a new base of operations,
 10.31 expansion of the service's primary service area, or provision of a new type or types of

11.1 ~~ambulance service, the board shall require the prospective licensee or owner to comply with~~
 11.2 ~~section 144E.11. The board may approve the license or ownership transfer prior to completion~~
 11.3 ~~of the application process described in section 144E.11 upon obtaining written assurances~~
 11.4 ~~from the proposed licensee or proposed new owner that no expansion of the service's primary~~
 11.5 ~~service area or provision of a new type or types of ambulance service will occur during the~~
 11.6 ~~processing of the application. If requesting a transfer of its base of operations, an applicant~~
 11.7 ~~must comply with the requirements of section 144E.15: to another party.~~

11.8 Subd. 2. **Transfer of base of operations.** A licensee requesting to transfer its base of
 11.9 operations must comply with section 144E.15.

11.10 Subd. 3. **License renewal; change of ownership.** A prospective licensee must apply
 11.11 for renewal of an ambulance service license prior to operating a currently licensed ambulance
 11.12 service. The licensee must change whenever one of the following events occurs:

11.13 (1) the form of the licensee's legal entity structure is converted or changed to a different
 11.14 type of legal entity structure;

11.15 (2) the licensee dissolves, consolidates, or merges with another legal organization and
 11.16 the licensee's legal organization does not survive;

11.17 (3) within the previous 24 months, 50 percent or more of the licensee is transferred, by
 11.18 one or more transactions, to a different person, or to a person who had less than a five percent
 11.19 ownership interest in the licensee at the time of the first transaction; or

11.20 (4) any other event or combination of events that results in a substitution, elimination,
 11.21 or withdrawal of the licensee's responsibility for operating the ambulance service.

11.22 Subd. 4. **License renewal; change of provider.** A licensee must apply for renewal of
 11.23 an ambulance service license if the licensee:

11.24 (1) discontinues providing services in a primary service area and instead contracts with
 11.25 another entity for the provision of services in a primary service area; or

11.26 (2) changes the entity with which the licensee contracts for the provision of services in
 11.27 a primary service area.

11.28 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.31, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

11.29 Subd. 3. **Fine.** (a) The board may order a fine concurrently with the issuance of a
 11.30 correction order, or after the licensee or education program has not corrected the violation
 11.31 within the time specified in the correction order.

12.1 (b) A licensee or education program that is ordered to pay a fine shall be notified of the
 12.2 order by certified mail. The notice shall be mailed to the address shown on the application
 12.3 or the last known address of the licensee or education program. The notice shall state the
 12.4 reasons the fine was ordered and shall inform the licensee or training program of the right
 12.5 to a contested case hearing under chapter 14.

12.6 (c) A licensee or education program may appeal the order to pay a fine by notifying the
 12.7 board by certified mail within 15 calendar days after receiving the order. A timely appeal
 12.8 shall stay payment of the fine until the board issues a final order.

12.9 (d) A licensee or education program shall pay the fine assessed on or before the payment
 12.10 date specified in the board's order. If a licensee or education program fails to fully comply
 12.11 with the order, the board shall suspend the license or cancel approval until there is full
 12.12 compliance with the order.

12.13 (e) Fines shall be assessed as follows:

12.14 (1) \$150 for violation of section 144E.123;

12.15 (2) \$400 for violation of sections 144E.06, ~~144E.07~~, 144E.101, 144E.103, 144E.121,
 12.16 144E.125, 144E.265, 144E.285, and 144E.305;

12.17 (3) \$750 for violation of rules adopted under section 144E.16, subdivision 4, clause (8);
 12.18 and

12.19 (4) \$50 for violation of all other sections under this chapter or rules adopted under this
 12.20 chapter that are not specifically enumerated in clauses (1) to (3).

12.21 (f) Fines collected by the board shall be deposited as nondedicated receipts in the general
 12.22 fund.

12.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

12.24 Sec. 17. **TRANSITION TO NEW PRIMARY SERVICE AREAS.**

12.25 Upon the adoption of rules under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.06, to modify the
 12.26 boundaries of primary service areas, an existing ambulance service licensee providing
 12.27 service in the area that constitutes the modified primary service area or areas may continue
 12.28 to provide service in the area or areas through the remainder of the licensee's licensure
 12.29 period. At least 90 days before the end of that licensure period and notwithstanding Minnesota
 12.30 Statutes, section 144E.115, the existing licensee must apply for licensure under Minnesota
 12.31 Statutes, section 144E.11, and for a permit under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.065, if
 12.32 the licensee wishes to continue to provide service in the modified primary service area. At

13.1 that time, any other entity that wishes to provide service in that modified primary service
13.2 area may also apply for a permit to serve that primary service area. Such an entity must also
13.3 apply for licensure under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.11, if the entity is not licensed
13.4 or was not issued a license under that section following the effective date of rules to modify
13.5 the boundaries of primary service areas.

13.6 Sec. 18. **REPEALER.**

13.7 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.07, is repealed.

13.8 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144E.11, subdivision 9, is repealed.

13.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

144E.07 SUMMARY APPROVAL.

Subdivision 1. **Eliminating overlap; expansion.** An ambulance service may request a change in its primary service area, as established under section 144E.06, to eliminate any overlap in primary service areas or to expand its primary service area to provide service to a contiguous, but undesignated, primary service area. An ambulance service requesting a change in its primary service area must submit a written application to the board on a form provided by the board and must comply with the requirements of this section.

Subd. 2. **Retraction.** An applicant requesting to retract service from a geographic area within its designated primary service area must provide documentation showing that another licensed ambulance service is providing or will provide ambulance coverage within the proposed area of withdrawal.

Subd. 3. **Overlapping expansion.** An applicant requesting to provide service in a geographic area that is within the primary service area of another licensed ambulance service or services must submit documentation from the service or services whose primary service areas overlap the proposed expansion area, approving the expansion and agreeing to withdraw any service coverage from the proposed expanded area. The application may include documentation from the public safety answering point coordinator or coordinators endorsing the proposed change.

Subd. 4. **No primary service.** An applicant requesting to provide service in a geographic area where no primary ambulance service has been designated must submit documentation of approval from the ambulance service or services which are contiguous to the proposed expansion area. The application may include documentation from the public safety answering point coordinator or coordinators endorsing the proposed change. If a licensed ambulance service provides evidence of historically providing 911 ambulance coverage to the undesignated area, it is not necessary to provide documentation from the contiguous ambulance service or services approving the change. At a minimum, a 12-month history of primary ambulance coverage must be included with the application.

Subd. 5. **Reporting.** The board shall report any approved change to the local public safety answering point coordinator.

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Subd. 9. **Renewal requirements.** An ambulance service license expires two years from the date of licensure. An ambulance service must apply to the board for license renewal at least one month prior to the expiration date of the license and must submit:

(1) an application prescribed by the board specifying any changes from the information provided for prior licensure and any other information requested by the board to clarify incomplete or ambiguous information presented in the application; and

(2) the appropriate fee as required under section 144E.29.