

HOUSE BILL 2359

By McCormick

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68,
Chapter 140, Part 3 and Title 68, Chapter 140,
Part 4, relative to emergency medical services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-302, is amended by deleting paragraph (13) in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-302(15), is amended by deleting the term “an EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-302, is amended by adding a new paragraph () as follows and renumbering subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

() “Emergency Medical Service Director” means an individual who directs the planning, development, implementation, coordination, administration, monitoring and evaluation of services provided by a licensed ambulance service.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-302, is amended by adding a new subsection () as follows and renumbering subsequent subsections accordingly:

() “Emergency Medical Service Medical Director” means an individual who has an active, unencumbered license to engage in the practice of medicine pursuant to Title 63, Chapter 6, or Chapter 9, and who provides medical advice, direction, oversight and authorization to emergency medical services personnel at a licensed ambulance service, and/or emergency medical services educational institution, including, but not limited to, quality assurance.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-302, is amended by deleting subsection (12) in its entirety and substituting it instead with the following:

() “Emergency Medical Services Personnel” means individuals certified or licensed by the Emergency Medical Services Board in accordance with various categories and classifications of licenses or certificates that the board establishes.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-302, is amended by adding a new subsection () as follows and renumbering subsequent subsection accordingly:

() “State Emergency Medical Services Medical Director” means an individual who has an unencumbered license to engage in the practice of medicine pursuant to Title 63, Chapter 6 or Chapter 9 and who provides medical advice, direction, oversight for statewide medical direction, including, but not limited to, quality assurance, protocols and standing orders.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-303(b)(4), is amended by deleting the term “EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-303(b)(5), is amended by deleting the term “certification as EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensure as emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-303(b)(6), is amended by deleting the term “certification as an EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensure as emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-303(b)(7), is amended by deleting the term “certification as an EMT-P, EMT, or registered nurse” and replacing it with “licensure as emergency medical services personnel or registered nurse.”

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-303(b)(8), is amended by deleting the term “certification as an EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensure as emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-304, is amended by adding a new subsection () as follows and renumbering subsequent subsections accordingly:

() Enter into agreements or contracts with any person to assist impaired professionals who are licensed, permitted or certified by the board.

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-306, is amended by adding the following new subsection as new subsection (g) and reordering the subsequent subsections accordingly:

(g) An ambulance service may renew the service license within sixty (60) days following the license expiration date upon payment of the renewal fee in addition to a late penalty established by the board for each month or fraction of a month that payment for renewal is late; provided that the late penalty shall not exceed twice the renewal fee. If the ambulance service license is not renewed within sixty (60) days following the license expiration date, then the licensee shall reapply for licensure in accordance with the rules established by the board.

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-308(a), is amended by deleting the term “Licenses issued for EMTs and EMT-Ps, and such certificates and authorizations as shall be issued for other EMS personnel” and replacing it with “Licenses, certificates, and authorizations issued for emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 15. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-308, is amended by adding new subsection (c) and reordering the current subsection (c) as subsection (d) as follows:

A licensee, permit or certificate holder may renew his or her license within sixty (60) days following the license expiration date upon payment of the renewal fee in addition to a late penalty established by the board for each month or fraction of a month that payment for renewal is late; provided, that the late penalty shall not exceed twice the renewal fee. If a licensee fails to renew his or her license within sixty (60) days

following the license expiration date, then the licensee shall reapply for licensure in accordance with the rules established by the board.

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-309(a), is amended by deleting the term “An EMT, physician or nurse” and replacing it with “Licensed emergency medical services personnel, a physician or a nurse.”

SECTION 17. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-309(b), is amended by deleting the term “EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensed emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 18. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-309(c), is amended by deleting the term “An EMT or EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensed emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 19. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-310, is amended by deleting the term “EMT-P” and replacing it with “licensed paramedic.”

SECTION 20. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-312, is amended by deleting the term “EMT or paramedics” and replacing it with “emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 21. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-317(a)(1), is amended by deleting the term “EMT’s” and replacing it with “Licensed emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 22. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-320(a), is amended by deleting the term “an EMT-P” and replacing it with “a paramedic or critical care paramedic.”

SECTION 23. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-320, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety and substituting it instead with the following:

For the purposes of this part, “emergency response employees” (EREs) include licensed emergency medical services personnel, certified emergency medical responders, and fire fighters.

SECTION 24. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-140-324, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

68-140-324. Choice of licenses for Emergency Medical Services Personnel.

A licensee may upgrade or downgrade a license by submitting the appropriate documentation to the EMS division administrative office, by completing any requirements and paying any fees established by the board.

SECTION 25. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-325(a), is amended by deleting the term “licensed EMT and EMT-P, or such certificates and authorizations as shall be issued for other EMS personnel” and replacing it with “licensed, certificated or authorized emergency medical services personnel.”

SECTION 26. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-327, is amended by deleting the term “emergency medical technician-paramedic (EMT-P)” and replacing it with “paramedic.”

SECTION 27. Tennessee Code Annotated Section 68-140-405, is amended by deleting paragraph (7) in its entirety.

SECTION 28. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.