

§63-1-2501. Short title.

Sections 1-2502 through 1-2521 of this title shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act".

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 5, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1999, c. 156, § 1, eff. Nov. 1, 1999.

§63-1-2502. Legislative findings and declaration.

The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. There is a critical shortage of providers of emergency care for:
 - a. the delivery of fast, efficient emergency medical care for the sick and injured at the scene of a medical emergency and during transport to a health care facility, and
 - b. the delivery of stabilizing and definitive care at a health care facility; and
2. Improved emergency service is required to reduce the mortality rate during the first critical minutes immediately following the onset of a medical emergency.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 6, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1999, c. 156, § 2, eff. Nov. 1, 1999.

§63-1-2503. Definitions.

As used in the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act:

1. "Ambulance" means any ground, air or water vehicle which is or should be approved by the Commissioner of Health, designed and equipped to transport a patient or patients and to provide appropriate on-scene and en route patient stabilization and care as required. Vehicles used as ambulances shall meet such standards as may be required by the State Board of Health for approval, and shall display evidence of such approval at all times;
2. "Ambulance authority" means any public trust or nonprofit corporation established by the state or any unit of local government or combination of units of government for the express purpose of providing, directly or by contract, emergency medical services in a specified area of the state;
3. "Ambulance patient" or "patient" means any person who is or will be transported in a reclining position to or from a health care facility in an ambulance;
4. "Ambulance service" means any private firm or governmental agency which is or should be licensed by the State Department of Health to provide levels of medical care based on certification standards promulgated by the Board;
5. "Ambulance service district" means any county, group of counties or parts of counties formed together to provide, operate and finance emergency medical services as provided by Section 9C of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution or Sections 1201 through 1221 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

6. "Board" means the State Board of Health;
7. "Classification" means an inclusive standardized identification of stabilizing and definitive emergency services provided by each hospital that treats emergency patients;
8. "Commissioner" means the State Commissioner of Health;
9. "Council" means the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Advisory Council;
10. "Department" means the State Department of Health;
11. "Emergency medical services system" means a system which provides for the organization and appropriate designation of personnel, facilities and equipment for the effective and coordinated local, regional and statewide delivery of health care services primarily under emergency conditions;
12. "Emergency Medical Technician/Basic, Emergency Medical Technician/Intermediate, Emergency Medical Technician/Advanced Cardiac, or Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic" means an individual licensed by the Department to perform emergency medical services in accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act and in accordance with the rules and standards promulgated by the Board;
13. "First responder" means an individual certified by the Department to perform emergency medical services in accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act and in accordance with the rules and standards promulgated by the Board;
14. "First response agency" means an organization of any type certified by the Department to provide emergency medical care, but not transport. First response agencies may utilize certified first responders or licensed emergency medical technicians; provided, however, that all personnel so utilized shall function under the direction of and consistent with guidelines for medical control;
15. "Licensure" means the licensing of emergency medical care providers and ambulance services pursuant to rules and standards promulgated by the Board at one or more of the following levels:
 - a. Basic life support,
 - b. Intermediate life support,
 - c. Paramedic life support,
 - d. Stretcher aid van, and
 - e. Specialized Mobile Intensive Care, which shall be used solely for inter-hospital transport of patients requiring specialized en route medical monitoring and advanced life support which exceed the capabilities of the equipment and personnel provided by paramedic life support.

Requirements for each level of care shall be established by the Board. Licensure at any level of care includes a license to operate at any lower level, with the exception of licensure for Specialized Mobile Intensive Care; provided, however, that the highest level of care offered by an ambulance service shall be available twenty-four (24) hours each day, three hundred sixty-five (365) days per year.

Licensure shall be granted or renewed for such periods and under such terms and conditions as may be promulgated by the State Board;

16. "Medical control" means local, regional or statewide medical direction and quality assurance of health care delivery in an emergency medical service system. On-line medical

control is the medical direction given to emergency medical personnel and stretcher aid van personnel by a physician via radio or telephone. Off-line medical control is the establishment and monitoring of all medical components of an emergency medical service system, which is to include stretcher aid van service including, but not limited to, protocols, standing orders, educational programs, and the quality and delivery of on-line control;

17. "Medical director" means a physician, fully licensed without restriction, who acts as a paid or volunteer medical advisor to a licensed ambulance service and who monitors and directs the care so provided. Such physicians shall meet such qualifications and requirements as may be promulgated by the Board;

18. "Region" or "emergency medical service region" means two or more municipalities, counties, ambulance districts or other political subdivisions exercising joint control over one or more providers of emergency medical services and stretcher aid van service through common ordinances, authorities, boards or other means;

19. "Regional emergency medical services system" means a network of organizations, individuals, facilities and equipment which serves a region, subject to a unified set of regional rules and standards which may exceed, but may not be in contravention of, those required by the state, which is under the medical direction of a single regional medical director, and which participates directly in the delivery of the following services:

- a. medical call-taking and emergency medical services dispatching, emergency and routine, including priority dispatching of first response agencies, stretcher aid van and ambulances,
- b. first response services provided by first response agencies,
- c. ambulance services, both emergency, routine and stretcher aid van including, but not limited to, the transport of patients in accordance with transport protocols approved by the regional medical director, and
- d. directions given by physicians directly via radio or telephone, or by written protocol, to first response agencies, stretcher aid van or ambulance personnel at the scene of an emergency or while en route to a hospital;

20. "Regional medical director" means a licensed physician, who meets or exceeds the qualifications of a medical director as defined by the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act, chosen by an emergency medical service region to provide external medical oversight, quality control and related services to that region;

21. "Registration" means the listing of an ambulance service in a registry maintained by the Department; provided, however, registration shall not be deemed to be a license;

22. "Stretcher aid van" means any ground vehicle which is or should be approved by the State Commissioner of Health, which is designed and equipped to transport individuals on a stretcher or gurney type apparatus. Vehicles used as stretcher aid vans shall meet such standards as may be required by the State Board of Health for approval and shall display evidence of such approval at all times. Stretcher aid van services shall only be permitted and approved by the Commissioner in emergency medical service regions, ambulance service districts, or counties with populations in excess of 300,000 people. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, stretcher aid van transports may be made to and from any federal or state veterans facility;

23. "Stretcher aid van patient" means any person who is or will be transported in a reclining position on a stretcher or gurney, who is medically stable, non-emergent and does

not require any medical monitoring equipment or assistance during transport; and

24. "Transport protocol" means the written instructions governing decision-making at the scene of a medical emergency by ambulance personnel regarding the selection of the hospital to which the patient shall be transported. Transport protocols shall be developed by the regional medical director for a regional emergency medical services system or by the Department if no regional emergency medical services system has been established. Such transport protocols shall adhere to, at a minimum, the following guidelines:

- a. nonemergency, routine transport shall be to the facility of the patient's choice,
- b. urgent or emergency transport not involving life-threatening medical illness or injury shall be to the nearest facility, or, subject to transport availability and system area coverage, to the facility of the patient's choice, and
- c. life-threatening medical illness or injury shall require transport to the nearest health care facility appropriate to the needs of the patient as established by regional or state guidelines.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 7, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1999, c. 156, § 3, eff. Nov. 1, 1999; Laws 2001, c. 411, § 5, eff. Nov. 1, 2001; Laws 2005, c. 433, § 1, eff. July 1, 2005; Laws 2006, c. 171, § 1, emerg. eff. May 17, 2006; Laws 2007, c. 1, § 49, emerg. eff. Feb. 22, 2007.

§63-1-2504. Utilization of emergency medical personnel in hospital or health care facilities - EMT students - Nurses.

A. Any hospital or health care facility operating within the state may utilize EMT/Basic, EMT/Intermediate, EMT/Advanced Cardiac or EMT/Paramedic personnel for the delivery of emergency medical patient care within the hospital or health care facility. All licensed ambulance services shall use EMT/Basic, EMT/Intermediate, EMT/Advanced Cardiac, or EMT/Paramedic personnel for on-scene patient care and stabilization and the delivery of prehospital and en route emergency medical care.

B. While participating in an Emergency Medical Technician Basic, Intermediate, or Paramedic training course approved by the Department of Health, the EMT student shall be allowed to perform in the hospital, clinic or prehospital setting, while under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse, EMT licensed at a level equal to or above the level of training of the student, or other allied health preceptor, any of the skills determined to be appropriate for the training level of the student by the Department.

C. A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse may be used in the back of an ambulance during an interhospital transfer to supplement the skills of an emergency medical technician. A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse functioning in this fashion must be following written orders of a physician or be in direct radio or telephone contact with a physician.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 8, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990.

§63-1-2505. Licensed personnel - Levels of care.

Personnel licensed in the following levels of care may perform as designated under their classification:

1. "Emergency Medical Technician/Basic" or "EMT/Basic" means an individual licensed by the Department of Health following completion of a standard Basic Emergency Medical Technician training program approved by the Department, who has met such other standards of competence and character as may be required, and who has passed a standard licensing examination of knowledge and skill, administered by the Department. The licensed Emergency Medical Technician/Basic is allowed to perform such skills as may be designated by the Department;

2. "Emergency Medical Technician/Intermediate" or "EMT/Intermediate" means an individual licensed as an EMT/Basic, has completed an intermediate training program approved by the Department, who has met such other standards of competence and character as may be required, and who has passed a standard licensing examination of knowledge and skill administered by the Department. The Emergency Medical Technician/Intermediate is allowed to perform such skills as may be designated by the Department;

3. "Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic" or "EMT/Paramedic" means an individual licensed as an EMT/Basic or EMT/Intermediate, who has completed a standard Paramedic training program, who has met such other standards of competence and character as may be required, and who has passed a standard licensing examination of knowledge and skill administered by the Department. The Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic is allowed to perform such skills as may be designated by the Department.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 9, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990.

§63-1-2506. Performance of medical procedures.

Licensed and certified emergency medical personnel, while a duty to act is in effect, shall perform medical procedures to assist patients to the best of their abilities under the direction of a medical director or in accordance with written protocols, which may include standing orders, authorized and developed by the medical director and approved by the State Department of Health when not in conflict with standards recommended by the Medical Direction Subcommittee of the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Advisory Council and approved by the State Board of Health. Licensure, certification and authorization for emergency medical personnel to perform medical procedures must be consistent with provisions of this act, and rules adopted by the Board. Medical control and medical directors shall meet such requirements as prescribed through rules adopted by the Board.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 10, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 2005, c. 204, § 1, eff. July 1, 2005.

§63-1-2508. Licensure of certain individuals without examination - Temporary licenses.

A. The Commissioner may issue a license as an EMT/Basic, EMT/Intermediate or EMT/Paramedic without examination to an applicant who has been duly certified or licensed as such under the laws of another state, territory, or the District of Columbia, if such applicant meets the qualifications for licensure as established herein and such standards as may be promulgated by the State Board.

B. The Commissioner may issue a temporary license valid for nine (9) months from the date of issuance to any person duly certified or licensed as an EMT/basic, EMT/intermediate, or EMT/paramedic under the laws of another state, territory, or the District of Columbia. This temporary license may not be renewed and the holder must meet the qualifications for licensure as established herein and such standards as may be promulgated by the State Board in order to receive any further EMT license in this state.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 12, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1991, c. 167, § 4, eff. July 1, 1991.

§63-1-2509. Operation of ambulance service - Violation of act - Penalties - Public nuisance - Injunctions.

A. 1. No person, company, governmental entity or trust authority may operate an ambulance service within this state except as provided in this section. The State Commissioner of Health, the district attorney of the county wherein the ambulance service operates or may be found, or the Attorney General of this state shall have the authority to bring an action to enjoin the operation of any ambulance service not in compliance with the provisions of this act.

2. A ground ambulance service based outside of this state that is licensed and in good standing in its home state may respond to an emergency request for care and transport of a patient within this state provided no local licensed ambulance service is readily available, and may be exempt from the licensing requirements of this state pursuant to rules promulgated by the State Board of Health.

3. Requests for service must be referred by an Oklahoma emergency dispatch center. The Board may require such exempt ambulance service to subsequently provide documentation of emergency response activities performed within this state.

4. The State Department of Health shall have the authority to investigate any complaint associated with an emergency response by an out-of-state ambulance service in the same manner as ambulance services licensed by the Department within this state.

B. The Commissioner shall have the authority to revoke or suspend any license, to issue probationary licenses, or to levy such administrative fines and penalties as may be deemed necessary, for violations of the provisions of this act, subject to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. The powers afforded the Commissioner within the general enforcement provisions of the Public Health Code are additionally incorporated herein.

C. In addition to any other penalties, any person, company, governmental entity or trust authority who violates any of the provisions of this act relating to compliance with the

provisions of this act or of standards, specifications, procedures and rules adopted by the Board may be punished by the assessment of a civil penalty of not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each violation. Each day a violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

D. The operation or maintenance of an ambulance service in violation of this act, or the rules promulgated by the Board, is declared a public nuisance inimical to the public welfare. The Commissioner in the name of the people of the state, through the Attorney General, or the district attorney of the county in which the ambulance service is located, may, in addition to other remedies herein provided, bring action for an injunction to restrain such violation or to enjoin the future operation or maintenance of any such ambulance service.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 13, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 2005, c. 191, § 1, eff. Nov. 1, 2005; Laws 2006, c. 16, § 46, emerg. eff. March 29, 2006.

§63-1-2510. Division of Emergency Medical Services created.

There is hereby created within the State Department of Health the Division of Emergency Medical Services, for the operation of an Oklahoma Emergency Medical Services Program.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 14, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990.

§63-1-2511. Commissioner - Powers and duties relating to Oklahoma Emergency Medical Services Improvement Program.

The State Commissioner of Health shall have the following powers and duties with regard to an Oklahoma Emergency Medical Services Improvement Program:

1. Administer and coordinate all federal and state programs, not specifically assigned by state law to other state agencies, which include provisions of the Federal Emergency Medical Services Systems Act and other federal laws and programs relating to the development of emergency medical services in this state. The administration and coordination of federal and state laws and programs relating to the development, planning, prevention, improvement and management of emergency medical services, including but not limited to the staffing of the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Advisory Council, shall be conducted by the Division of Emergency Medical Services, as prescribed by Section 1-2510 of this title;

2. Assist private and public organizations, emergency medical and health care providers, ambulance authorities, district boards and other interested persons or groups in improving emergency medical services at the local, municipal, district or state levels. This assistance shall be through professional advice and technical assistance;

3. Coordinate the efforts of local units of government to establish service districts and set up boards of trustees or other authorities to operate and finance emergency medical services in the state as provided under Section 9C of Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution

or under Sections 1201 through 1221 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The Commissioner shall evaluate all proposed district areas and operational systems to determine the feasibility of their economic and health services delivery;

4. Prepare, maintain and utilize a comprehensive plan and program for emergency medical services development throughout the state to be adopted by the State Board of Health and incorporated within the State Health Plan. The plan shall establish goals, objectives and standards for a statewide integrated system and a timetable for accomplishing and implementing different elements of the system. The plan shall also include, but not be limited to, all components of an emergency medical services system; regional and statewide planning; the establishment of standards and the appropriate criteria for the designation of facilities; data collection and quality assurance; and funding;

5. Maintain a comprehensive registry of all ambulance services operating within the state, to be published annually. All ambulance service providers shall register annually with the Commissioner on forms supplied by the State Department of Health, containing such requests for information as may be deemed necessary by the Commissioner;

6. Develop a standard report form which may be used by local, regional and statewide emergency medical services and emergency medical services systems to facilitate the collection of data related to the provision of emergency medical and trauma care. The Commissioner shall also develop a standardized emergency medical services data set and an electronic submission standard. Each ambulance service shall submit the information required in this section at such intervals as may be prescribed by rules promulgated by the State Board of Health;

7. Evaluate and certify all emergency medical services training programs and emergency medical technician training courses and operational services in accordance with specifications and procedures approved by the Board;

8. Provide an emergency medical technicians' and ambulance service licensure program;

9. Create a standing Medical Direction Subcommittee of the Advisory Council to be composed entirely of physicians who are or who have been medical directors or regional medical directors. Members of the Subcommittee shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner. The Subcommittee shall advise the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee on the following:

- a. the design of all medical aspects and components of emergency medical services systems,
- b. the appropriateness of all standards for medical and patient care operations or services, treatment procedures and protocols,
- c. the implementation and facilitation of regional EMS Systems, and
- d. such other matters and activities as directed by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee;

10. Employ and prescribe the duties of employees as may be necessary to administer the provisions of the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act;

11. Apply for and accept public and private gifts, grants, donations and other forms of financial assistance designed for the support of emergency medical services;

12. Develop a classification system for all hospitals that treat emergency patients. The classification system shall:

- a. identify stabilizing and definitive emergency services provided by each

- hospital,
- b. requires each hospital to notify the regional emergency medical services system control when treatment services are at maximum capacity and that emergency patients should be diverted to another hospital; and

13. Develop and monitor a statewide emergency medical services and trauma analysis system designed to:

- a. identify emergency patients and severely injured trauma patients treated in Oklahoma,
- b. identify the total amount of uncompensated emergency care provided each fiscal year by each hospital and ambulance service in Oklahoma, and
- c. monitor emergency patient care provided by emergency medical service and hospitals.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 15, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1994, c. 236, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1994; Laws 1999, c. 156, § 4, eff. Nov. 1, 1999; Laws 2001, c. 411, § 6, eff. Nov. 1, 2001; Laws 2005, c. 204, § 3, eff. July 1, 2005.

§63-1-2513. Operation of ambulance service - Application for license – Air Ambulance providers.

A. All persons, companies, governmental entities or trust authorities desiring to operate an ambulance service shall file with the State Commissioner of Health an application for a license to operate the service. The Commissioner shall, within two (2) months of the date of the application, notify the applicant in writing of the granting or rejection of the license and shall, in the event of rejection, specify the reasons for the rejection.

B. The Commissioner may issue an Oklahoma Air Ambulance Provider License to an Air Ambulance provider, duly licensed in good standing and operating from bases in an adjoining state, that makes application and provides documentation pursuant to rules promulgated by the State Board of Health. Such ambulance provider staff shall not be required to be licensed in this state but shall be required to meet the licensure requirements in the state of origin.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 17, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 2005, c. 191, § 2, eff. Nov. 1, 2005.

§63-1-2515. EMS Regions, Ambulance Service districts or municipalities - Regulation and control of Ambulance Service transports - Exemptions.

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Regions, Ambulance Service districts or municipalities are hereby authorized to regulate and control, pursuant to duly enacted ordinance or regulation, Ambulance Service transports

originating within the jurisdiction of such EMS Regions, Ambulance Service districts or municipalities.

B. Any ordinance or regulation adopted pursuant to subsection A of this section shall meet and may exceed, but shall not be in contravention of, the standards promulgated by the State Board of Health for Ambulance Service transports.

C. 1. Any ordinance or regulation adopted by an EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or a municipality may establish a sole-provider system for stretcher aid van and/or Ambulance Service transports; provided, however, any such designated or contracted sole-provider which is not an EMS Region, Ambulance Service district, municipality, or other public entity shall be selected by competitive bidding.

2. A contract entered into pursuant to such bidding shall be with the lowest and best bidder and may be for an initial term of such duration as deemed operationally and fiscally prudent by the contracting agency. The term of such sole-provider contract shall be made public at the time bids are solicited, which solicitation shall be not less than sixty (60) days prior to the contract start date.

D. Any EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or municipality may establish a sole-provider system for stretcher aid van and/or Ambulance Service transports and may allow additional geographic or political subdivisions to join such a system at any time. Whenever such a geographic or political subdivision joins such a sole-provider system, competitive bidding shall not be required and provision for servicing the new jurisdiction may be accomplished by amending the existing sole-provider contract. Furthermore, in the event the expansion of the service area of the EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or the municipality is substantial (in the sole opinion of the governing body of the EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or municipality), the existing sole-provider contract may be extended for a period sufficient to allow reasonable opportunity for recovery of capital costs of expansion, as determined by the contracting agency.

E. The provisions of this section shall not be construed or applied to limit the operation of any emergency medical service district established and operating pursuant to Section 9C of Article 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution; provided, however, that, upon invitation and approval of a majority of the voters of the district, any such district is hereby authorized to join by appropriate agreement any system established by an EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or a municipality pursuant to the provisions of this section.

F. The following types of patient transports shall be exempt from regulation by EMS Regions, Ambulance Service districts or municipalities:

1. Any ambulance owned or operated by, or under contract to perform ambulance transport services for, the Federal or State government, or any agency thereof;

2. Any ambulance owned and operated by a hospital and in use to transport a patient of the owner-hospital, which patient has been admitted to and not been discharged from the owner-hospital, to or from another hospital or medical care facility at which the patient receives a diagnostic or therapeutic procedure not available at the owner-hospital;

3. Any ambulance engaged in a routine transport call to transport a patient from a hospital, nursing home, or dialysis center located within an EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or municipality to any location outside the EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or municipality;

4. Any ambulance engaged in the transport of a patient from a location outside an EMS Region, Ambulance Service district or municipality to a location inside an EMS Region,

Ambulance Service district or municipality; or

5. Any ambulance engaged in the interstate transport of a patient.

Added by Laws 1990, c. 320, § 18, emerg. eff. May 30, 1990. Amended by Laws 1991, c. 167, § 3, eff. July 1, 1991; Laws 1995, c. 194, § 4, eff. Nov. 1, 1995; Laws 1997, c. 281, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Laws 2001, c. 411, § 8, eff. Nov. 1, 2001.

§63-1-2516. Emergency Response Systems Development Advisory Council.

A. 1. There is hereby re-created the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Advisory Council until July 1, 2008, in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law, to be composed of physicians, health service providers, consumers of health care, other health care professionals, and persons involved in the education and training of emergency medical personnel.

2. The Council shall consist of nineteen (19) persons, eight of whom shall be persons representing rural areas of this state and counties with populations under fifty thousand (50,000). Members of the Council shall be appointed as follows:

- a. six members shall be appointed by the Governor,
- b. five members shall be appointed by the State Commissioner of Health,
- c. four members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
- d. four members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

3. Two of the appointees of each appointing authority shall represent rural areas of this state and counties with populations under fifty thousand (50,000). Initially, three of the appointees of the Governor, two appointees of the Commissioner, and one appointee each of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be appointed for terms of one (1) year. The remaining appointees of the Council shall be appointed for terms of two (2) years. Thereafter, all appointees shall be appointed for terms of two (2) years. All appointees shall be eligible for reappointment, but in no case shall any appointee be appointed for more than six (6) consecutive years on the Council.

4. The current members of the Council shall continue to serve as members of the Council until a majority of the appointments are made under this section and such current members shall be eligible for reappointment.

B. Persons on the Council shall at all times serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary travel expenses from funds available for the operation of the State Department of Health and in accordance with the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act. The Council shall advise the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee on the following:

1. Training program specifications for emergency medical personnel, the types of medical care procedures which may be performed by emergency medical personnel, and qualifications for licensure and certification of emergency medical personnel;

2. Patient care equipment for ambulances, ambulance specifications, criteria and standards for the classification of emergency medical services rendered by providers,

including communications and reporting requirements, and operational procedures for providers of ambulance services;

3. Design of the statewide communications system, including procedures for summoning and dispatching emergency medical service, including 911;

4. Projects, programs, and legislation needed to improve emergency medical services in the state; and

5. Such other matters and activities as directed by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

Added by Laws 1994, c. 236, § 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1994. Amended by Laws 1996, c. 62, § 1; Laws 2001, c. 411, § 9, eff. Nov. 1, 2001; Laws 2002, c. 85, § 1; Laws 2005, c. 204, § 4, eff. July 1, 2005.

