

ASSEMBLY, No. 5258

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SERENA DIMASO

District 13 (Monmouth)

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District 33 (Hudson)

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SYNOPSIS

Authorizes certain paramedics with expired certifications to be temporarily reactivated during communicable disease outbreaks.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical services and supplementing
2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. As used in this section, "advanced life support," "mobile
8 intensive care paramedic," and "mobile intensive care unit" shall
9 have the same meaning as provided in section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146
10 (C.26:2K-7).

11 b. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, during
12 a declared disaster or during an outbreak of a communicable disease
13 occurring among the general public in any area of the State, a
14 mobile intensive care unit or other provider of advanced life support
15 services may employ a mobile intensive care paramedic with an
16 expired professional certification if:

17 (1) the mobile intensive care paramedic has no criminal history
18 or pending criminal charges referenced in N.J.A.C.8:41A-5.2;

19 (2) the mobile intensive care paramedic is assessed and deemed
20 competent to work as a paramedic by the medical director of the
21 mobile intensive care unit or the medical director of the provider of
22 advanced life support services; and

23 (3) the mobile intensive care paramedic works under the
24 supervision of a professionally certified mobile intensive care
25 paramedic or physician-directed registered professional nurse.

26 c. A mobile intensive care paramedic employed pursuant to
27 subsection b. of this section shall be permitted to continue to work
28 as a paramedic for a period of six months following the end of the
29 declared disaster or the outbreak of a communicable disease.
30 Following the end of the six-month period, a mobile intensive care
31 paramedic's authorization to work as paramedic pursuant to this
32 section shall terminate unless the paramedic has completed his or
33 her professional certification requirements.

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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40 This bill permits the employment of uncertified paramedics
41 under certain circumstances.

42 The bill provides that during a declared disaster or during an
43 outbreak of a communicable disease occurring among the general
44 public in any area of the State, a mobile intensive care unit or other
45 provider of advanced life support services may employ a paramedic
46 with an expired professional certification if: 1) the paramedic has
47 no criminal history or pending criminal charges referenced in
48 N.J.A.C.8:41A-5.2; 2) paramedic is assessed and deemed competent

1 to work as a paramedic by the medical director of the mobile
2 intensive care unit or the medical director of the provider of
3 advanced life support services; and 3) the mobile intensive care
4 paramedic works under the supervision of a professionally certified
5 paramedic or physician-directed registered professional nurse.

6 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) defines "mobile intensive care unit"
7 to mean a specialized emergency medical service vehicle staffed by
8 mobile intensive care paramedics or registered professional nurses
9 trained in advanced life support nursing and operated for the
10 provision of advanced life support services under the direction of an
11 authorized hospital.

12 Under the bill, a paramedic employed pursuant to the bill's
13 provisions is to be permitted to continue to work as a paramedic for
14 a period of six months following the end of the declared disaster or
15 the outbreak of a communicable disease. Thereafter, a mobile
16 intensive care paramedic's authorization to work as paramedic is to
17 terminate unless the paramedic has completed his or her
18 professional certification requirements.