

SESSION OF 2008

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 512**

As Amended by House Committee on  
Health and Human Services

**Brief\***

SB 512, as amended, deals with certification of emergency medical attendants.

The bill would allow the Emergency Medical Services Board to grant an emergency medical attendant certificate if such applicant has:

- Successfully completed a course of instruction;
- Worked as required by the rules and regulations of the Emergency Medical Services Board; and
- Successfully completed course work in another jurisdiction that is substantially equivalent to that required by the rules and regulations adopted by the Board.

Under the bill, the Board would be allowed to grant a temporary attendant's certificate if:

- The applicant is certified or licensed in another jurisdiction, but whose course work is not substantially equivalent to that required by the Board. The temporary certificate would be valid for one year or until the applicant has completed the course work; and
- The applicant has completed the course work and has taken the required examination, but has not received the

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

results of the examination. The temporary certificate would be valid for 120 days from the date of the examination.

Under the bill, any applicant who has been granted a temporary certificate would have to be under the direct supervision of a physician, a physician's assistant, a professional nurse, or an attendant holding a certificate higher or equivalent to that of the applicant.

Under the bill, the Board would be allowed to deny, revoke, limit, modify, suspend, or refuse to renew a certification if the applicant:

- Has made intentional misrepresentation in obtaining or renewing a certificate;
- Has demonstrated incompetence or engaged in unprofessional conduct;
- Has violated any rules or regulations of the Board; or
- Has been convicted of any state or federal crime related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a certified attendant or been convicted of a felony and the Board determines that such individual has not been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant public trust.

Finally, the bill would require the Board to adopt, through rules and regulations, a graduated list of sanctions for violations of the Emergency Medical Services Act which specifies the number and severity of violations for the imposition of each level of sanction.

## **Background**

Robert Waller, Chief Administrator, Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, testified as a proponent. No opponents testified on the bill.

The bill was amended dealing with the qualifications necessary for the Board to grant an attendant's certificate.

The Senate Committee further amended the bill by deleting the fingerprinting requirements to determine applicants' eligibility for certification.

The House Committee on Health and Human Services amended the bill to delete provisions that would have restricted the Board's authority to take prompt disciplinary action against individuals convicted of a crime. The Committee also amended the bill to require the Board to adopt through rules and regulations a formal list of graduated sanctions for violations of the Emergency Medical Services Act.

The fiscal note on the original bill indicated that the Board of Emergency Medical Services would reimburse the Kansas Bureau of Investigation for background checks and fingerprinting, and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation would be responsible for reimbursing the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation stated that any additional funding the agency may need would be obtained from the Emergency Medical Services Board.