

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 17, 2004

TO: Representative Jim Morrison, Chair; and Members
House Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: David Lake - Board of Emergency Medical
Services

RE: HB 2832

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, Thank You for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of HB2832. The Board of EMS considers this legislation to be very user-friendly in that it amends the current statute 65-6129 with regard to gaining Kansas EMS attendant certification, whether permanent or temporary. The portions of the current statute for which we are proposing amendment are the following:

In section 1; (1)(A), (line 19) the Board proposes changing the length of time an applicant can make application to the board for certification from one year to two years from the date of the final class. The purpose for this change is to mirror the length of time allowed by the National Registry for eligibility to take the registry exam. This is the examination we are currently utilizing for initial certification at the First Responder, EMT, and MICT levels.

In section 1; (b) (line 34) the Board proposes to remove the

requirement of an EMT certificate on the applicant for a Mobile Intensive Care Technician certificate. The National Registry requires a current EMT certificate of anyone taking their registry examination which we use for State certification.

The “strike-through” in line 38 merely cleans up the language that was added two years ago. It established the base-line date for two-year attendant certification.

On page two, section 1; (2)(d) lines 3 through 18 is the current language that establishes the criteria for issuing a temporary certification to anyone who is not qualified under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a). Lines 19 through 32 is the change proposed for your consideration. The difference in the language is two-fold; *first*, it increases the length of time a temporary certificate is valid from a maximum of one year to a maximum of two years. *Second*, it eliminates the need for the application to be requested by an employer. If the applicant is currently registered by the national registry or certified/licensed in another jurisdiction at the level of certification for which the application has been made, upon payment of the appropriate fee the Board can issue the applicant a temporary Kansas certification. This is especially important to agencies such as fire departments who wish to hire certified attendants but are not the operator of an ambulance service.

Also on page two, section 1; (e)(A) simply cleans up the language with regard to what we identified two years ago as a “graduate certification”, also temporary in nature. It does not change the requirements for gaining this “graduate” certification.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony and will be glad to respond to any questions or comments you may have with regard to this proposed legislation or our agency.