

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3241

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 27, 2022

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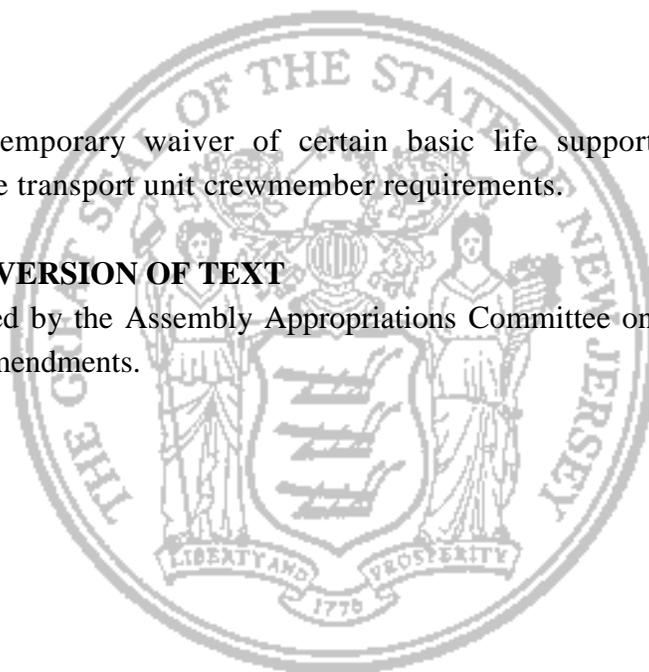
Senators Durr, O'Scanlon, Assemblyman Greenwald, Assemblywoman Spight, Assemblyman Rooney, Assemblywomen Eulner and Piperno

SYNOPSIS

Extends temporary waiver of certain basic life support services and specialty care transport unit crewmember requirements.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on December 12, 2022, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/15/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning basic life support services¹, specialty care
2 transport units,¹ and amending P.L.2021, c.477.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2021, c.477 is amended to read as follows:

8 1. a. As used in this section:

9 “ACLS certification” means valid certification in Advanced
10 Cardiac Life Support as issued by the American Heart Association.

11 “Advanced life support” means an advanced level of pre-
12 hospital, inter-hospital, and emergency service care which includes
13 basic life support functions, cardiac monitoring, cardiac
14 defibrillation, telemetered electrocardiography, administration of
15 anti-arrhythmic agents, intravenous therapy, administration of
16 specific medications, drugs and solutions, use of adjunctive
17 ventilation devices, trauma care and other techniques and
18 procedures authorized in writing by the Commissioner of Health.

19 “Basic life support” means a basic level of pre-hospital care
20 which includes patient stabilization, airway clearance,
21 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, hemorrhage control, initial wound
22 care and fracture stabilization, and other techniques and procedures
23 authorized by the Commissioner of Health.

24 “Emergency medical technician-paramedic” means a person
25 trained in advanced life support services and certified by the
26 Commissioner of Health to render advanced life support services as
27 part of a mobile intensive care unit.

28 “First responder” means a police officer, firefighter, or other
29 person who has been trained to provide emergency medical first
30 response services in a program recognized by the Commissioner of
31 Health.

32 “ITLS certification” means valid certification in International
33 Trauma Life Support as issued by the American College of
34 Emergency Physicians.

35 “Mobile intensive care nurse” means a registered nurse who: has
36 completed at least one year of full-time nursing care performing
37 advanced clinical skills in the critical care unit or emergency
38 department of an acute care hospital; possesses Emergency Medical
39 Technician-Basic, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and ACLS
40 certifications; possesses PALS or Pediatric Education for
41 Prehospital Professionals-Advanced certification or has successfully
42 completed the Emergency Nurse Pediatric Course to the standards
43 of the Emergency Nurses Association; possesses either PHTLS or
44 ITLS certification; has successfully completed at least a mobile

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 12, 2022.

1 intensive care unit field internship consisting of at least 100 hours,
2 has successfully intubated at least five patients and has
3 demonstrated proficiency in pre-hospital advanced life support
4 treatment to the satisfaction of the nurse's mobile intensive care
5 program's medical director; is physically capable of performing the
6 duties of a mobile intensive care nurse; and is endorsed by the
7 medical director of a mobile intensive care program.

8 "Mobile intensive care unit" means a specialized emergency
9 medical service vehicle operated for the provision of advanced life
10 support services under the direction of an authorized hospital.

11 "PALS certification" means valid certification in Pediatric
12 Advanced Life Support as issued by the American Heart
13 Association.

14 "PHTLS certification" means valid certification in Pre-Hospital
15 Trauma Life Support as issued by the National Association of
16 EMTs.

17 "Specialty care transport nurse" means a registered nurse who
18 has: completed at least one year of full time nursing care
19 performing advanced clinical skills in an acute care hospital's
20 critical care unit or emergency department and possesses valid
21 certification as either a critical care registered nurse or a certified
22 emergency nurse; holds certifications in CPR and ACLS; holds
23 certification in PALS or has successfully completed the Emergency
24 Nurse Pediatric Course to the standards of the Emergency Nurses
25 Association; has additional training in endotracheal intubation and
26 has been deemed competent by the medical director; and has
27 documented completion of competencies for advanced life support
28 equipment, including, but not limited to, cardiac
29 monitor/defibrillator, external pacemaker, IV pump, ventilator,
30 intra-aortic balloon pump, specialized respirators, and incubators.

31 "Specialty care transport unit" means a specialized transport
32 medical service vehicle that is validly licensed by the department
33 and operated in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated
34 by the department.

35 b. (1) Until January 1, **[2023]** 2024, a basic life support
36 services vehicle other than a basic life support services vehicle
37 described in subsection d. of this section, when in service, shall be
38 staffed by a minimum of two emergency medical technicians or by
39 a minimum of one emergency medical technician and one first
40 responder. Any individual staffing a basic life support vehicle as
41 provided in this paragraph shall be authorized to render care within
42 that individual's scope of practice. In the case of a vehicle staffed
43 by one emergency medical technician and one first responder, the
44 emergency medical technician shall be present in the patient
45 compartment of the vehicle at all times when a patient is present in
46 the vehicle.

47 (2) Until January 1, 2023, a mobile intensive care unit, when in
48 service, shall be staffed by a minimum of two persons, which two

1 persons may be two emergency medical technician-paramedics, two
2 mobile intensive care nurses, one emergency medical technician-
3 paramedic and one mobile intensive care nurse, or one emergency
4 medical technician and one emergency medical technician-
5 paramedic or mobile intensive care nurse. Any individual staffing a
6 mobile intensive care unit as provided in this paragraph shall be
7 authorized to render care within that individual's scope of practice.
8 In the case of a mobile intensive care unit staffed by one emergency
9 medical technician and one emergency medical technician-
10 paramedic or mobile intensive care nurse, the emergency medical
11 technician-paramedic or mobile intensive care nurse shall provide
12 primary patient care.

13 (3) Until January 1, ¹~~2023~~ 2024¹, a specialty care transport
14 unit, when in service, shall be staffed by a minimum of one
15 specialty care transport nurse and one emergency medical
16 technician. Any individual staffing a specialty care transport unit as
17 provided in this paragraph shall be authorized to render care within
18 that individual's scope of practice. The specialty care transport
19 nurse shall provide primary patient care.

20 c. Each individual staffing a basic life support vehicle, a
21 mobile intensive care unit, or a specialty care transport unit
22 pursuant to subsection b. of this section shall be at least 18 years of
23 age. In addition, a first responder staffing a basic life support
24 vehicle pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection b. of this section
25 shall:

26 (1) be certified to administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation;

27 (2) be able to operate a basic life support vehicle; and

28 (3) have completed a training program that has been approved
29 by the basic life support agency medical director and that includes,
30 at a minimum: safe vehicle operations; patient lifting and moving;
31 safe use of patient restraints; basic first aid; and documentation.

32 d. The provisions of subsection b. of this section shall not
33 apply to a basic life support vehicle dispatched in response to a 9-1-
34 1 emergency call, which vehicles, when in service, shall be staffed
35 by a minimum of two emergency medical technicians.

36 e. Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

37 (1) revise the requirements for certification, or to practice, as an
38 emergency medical technician, an emergency medical technician-
39 paramedic, a mobile intensive care nurse, or a specialty care
40 transport nurse in New Jersey;

41 (2) revise the scope of practice authorized for emergency
42 medical technicians, emergency medical technician-paramedics,
43 mobile intensive care nurses, or specialty care transport nurses in
44 New Jersey; **[or]**

45 (3) revise the standards or requirements for equipment for basic
46 life support vehicles, mobile intensive care units, or specialty care
47 transport units; or

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5

1 (4) alter the provisions of subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.1971,
2 c.136 (C.26:2H-2) or section 13 of P.L.1987, c.284 (C.27:5F-30).

3

4 2. This act shall take effect immediately.