

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4601

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 10, 2026

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

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District 25 (Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for licensure of emergency medical responders and emergency medical technicians and certification of mobility assistance vehicle operators; revises requirements for delivery of emergency medical and patient transportation services.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Health Committee on October 5, 2026, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/15/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical and patient transportation
2 services, supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes, and
3 revising and repealing various parts of statutory law.

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

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 1. As used in **[this act]** chapter 2K of Title 26 of the Revised
11 Statutes:

12 a. “Advanced life support” means an advanced level of
13 emergency medical care, including specialty care transport, which
14 includes basic life support functions and the use of procedures,
15 medications, and equipment established by the National Highway
16 Traffic Safety Administration's National EMS Scope of Practice
17 Model for paramedics, except for any provisions of the National
18 EMS Scope of Practice Model expressly excluded by the
19 commissioner in rules or regulations, and any other such
20 procedures, medications, and equipment as set forth in section 6 of
21 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12) or as otherwise authorized in rules or
22 regulations promulgated by the commissioner**;****1.**

23 b. “Board of Medical Examiners” means the State Board of
24 Medical Examiners**;****1.**

25 c. “Board of Nursing” means the New Jersey Board of
26 Nursing**;****1.**

27 d. “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the
28 Department of Health**;****1.**

29 e. “Department” means the Department of Health**;****1.**

30 f. “Emergency department” means a program in a hospital
31 staffed 24 hours a day by a licensed physician trained in emergency
32 medicine**;****1.**

33 g. “Specialty care transport” means services that are above
34 basic life support services rendered to patients before and during
35 transportation between licensed facilities, during retrieval from
36 those facilities, and upon arrival within those facilities**;****1.**

37 h. “Mobile intensive care paramedic” means a person trained in
38 advanced life support services and licensed by the commissioner to
39 render advanced life support services as part of a mobile intensive
40 care unit or as otherwise provided in section 4 of P.L.1984, c.146
41 (C.26:2K-10)**;****1.**

42 i. “Mobile intensive care unit” means a specialized emergency
43 medical service unit that is staffed in accordance with paragraph (2)
44 of subsection a. of section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-12) and

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 AHE committee amendments adopted October 5, 2026.

1 operated for the provision of advanced life support services under
2 the direction of an authorized hospital[;].

3 j. “Pre-hospital care” means those emergency medical services
4 rendered by mobile intensive care units to emergency patients
5 before and during transportation to emergency treatment facilities,
6 and upon arrival within those facilities.

7 k. “Volunteer paramedic unit” means an operational subunit
8 within a mobile intensive care unit that is exclusively staffed by at
9 least two volunteer paramedics with access to any vehicle,
10 including a personal vehicle.

11 l. “Agency EMS medical director” means a physician licensed
12 in this State who is certified in emergency medicine or emergency
13 medical services, or both, and is responsible for the medical
14 oversight of a hospital mobile intensive care program.

15 m. “Mobile integrated health” means health care services
16 delivered with the approval of the Department of Health to patients
17 outside of a hospital setting, using mobile resources, and employing
18 team-based and patient-centered care.

19 n. “Emergency medical responder” means an individual who is
20 trained to assist and provide initial medical care and transportation
21 services in accordance with the standards for emergency medical
22 responders, as defined by the most current National EMS Scope of
23 Practice Model and the National EMS Standards published by the
24 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and who is
25 licensed by the Department of Health to provide such services.

26 o. “Hospital transfer center” means a designated area, or
27 department, within a licensed general acute care hospital in New
28 Jersey, including satellite emergency departments, with the primary
29 responsibilities of: coordinating patient referral and transfer
30 agreements with one or more hospitals, encompassing emergency
31 care and inpatient and outpatient services; assuming accountability
32 for compliance with the transfer requirements outlined in N.J.A.C.
33 8:43G-5.2 et seq.; and ensuring seamless and efficient patient
34 transitions between healthcare facilities.

35 p. “Mobility assistance vehicle operator” means an individual
36 trained to provide mobility assistance vehicle services and who is
37 certified by the Department of Health to provide such services.

38 q. “Mobility assistance vehicle service provider” means an entity
39 that is licensed by the Department to provide nonemergency health
40 care transportation for persons who are sick, have an infirmity, or
41 have a disability, who are under the care and supervision of a
42 physician, and whose medical condition is not of sufficient
43 magnitude or gravity to require transportation by ambulance, but
44 does require transportation from place to place for medical care and
45 whose use of an alternate form of transportation, such as taxicab,
46 bus, other public conveyance or private vehicle might create a
47 serious risk to life and health.

48 (cf: P.L.2022, c.118, s.1)

1 2. Section 3 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-9) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 3. (1) The commissioner [after notice and hearing may revoke
4 the license of a mobile intensive care paramedic for violation of any
5 provision of this act or regulation promulgated hereunder] shall
6 have the authority to summarily suspend a person's mobile intensive
7 care paramedic license when, in the commissioner's opinion, the
8 continued licensure of that person poses an immediate or serious
9 threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.

10 (2) A person whose mobile intensive care paramedic license has
11 been summarily suspended shall have the right to apply for
12 emergency relief, as provided for by regulation.

13 (3) The commissioner may issue a formal written warning,
14 impose a monetary penalty, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or
15 refuse to issue or renew the license of any mobile intensive care
16 paramedic for violation of any of the rules adopted by the
17 department concerning the practice of mobile intensive care
18 paramedics.

19 (cf: P.L.2022, c.118, s.6)

20

21 3. (New section) a. The commissioner shall establish
22 crewmember minimum staffing requirements for: specialty care
23 transport units; mobile intensive care units; basic life support units
24 for emergent response; basic life support units for non-emergent
25 medical transportation; and mobility assistance vehicles. All
26 crewmembers shall hold a license or certification issued by the
27 commissioner or other credentials as may be deemed acceptable by
28 the commissioner.

29 b. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations
30 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
31 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.):

32 (1) describing the circumstances in which a basic life support
33 unit for non-emergency medical transport may be staffed by a
34 minimum of one emergency medical responder and one emergency
35 medical technician ¹, and exceptions to those circumstances by
36 which an emergency medical technician or emergency medical
37 responder may be entitled to a presumption of compliance with the
38 rules established by the commissioner¹; and

39 (2) establishing an appeals process for basic life support units
40 for instances in which the Department of Health determines that a
41 basic life support unit staffed by a minimum of one emergency
42 medical responder and one emergency medical technician acted
43 outside of scope of the rules established by the commissioner
44 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection. The appeals process
45 shall consider whether the basic life support unit was acting in good
46 faith and in the best interest of the patient.

1 4. Section 7 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-13) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 7. a. No person, business, or agency may advertise or
4 disseminate information to the public that the person, business, or
5 agency provides advanced life support services by a mobile
6 intensive care unit unless the person, business, or agency is
7 authorized to do so pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1984, c.146
8 (C.26:2K-12).

9 b. No person may impersonate or refer to himself or herself as
10 a mobile intensive care paramedic ¹**[.]** or¹ emergency medical
11 technician ¹**[, emergency medical responder, or mobility assistance**
12 **vehicle operator]**¹ unless the person is licensed ¹**[, certified,]**¹ or
13 otherwise approved therefor, as appropriate.

14 ¹c. No person may impersonate or refer to himself or herself as
15 an emergency medical responder unless the person is licensed or
16 approved therefor, as appropriate.

17 d. No person may impersonate or refer to himself or herself as a
18 mobility assistance vehicle operator unless the person is certified or
19 approved therefor, as appropriate.¹

20 (cf: P.L.2022, c.118, s.9)

21

22 5. Section 8 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-14) is amended to read
23 as follows:

24 8. No emergency medical technician, mobile intensive care
25 paramedic, licensed physician, hospital or its board of trustees,
26 officers and members of the medical staff, registered nurse,
27 advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, emergency medical
28 responder, mobility assistance vehicle operator, or other employees
29 of the hospital, first aid, ambulance or rescue squad, licensed
30 emergency medical services agency, or officers and members of a
31 first aid, ambulance or rescue squad shall be liable for any civil
32 damages as the result of an act or the omission of an act committed
33 while in training for or in the rendering of basic and advanced life
34 support services in good faith and in accordance with **[this act]**
35 P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-7 et seq.).

36 (cf: P.L.2022, c.118, s.10)

37

38 6. Section 14 of P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-20) is amended to
39 read as follows:

40 Nothing in **[this act]** P.L.1984, c.146 (C.26:2K-1 et seq.) shall
41 be construed to prevent a licensed and qualified member of the
42 health care profession from performing any of the duties of a
43 mobile intensive care paramedic, emergency medical technician, or
44 emergency medical responder, if the duties are consistent with the
45 accepted standards of the member's profession.

46 (cf: P.L.1984, c. 146, s. 14)

1 7. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.101 (C.26:2K-65) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 1. a. An emergency medical technician shall obtain licensure
4 from the commissioner to provide basic life support services and
5 shall make an application therefor on forms prescribed by the
6 commissioner.

7 b. The **【Commissioner of Health】** commissioner shall establish
8 written standards and application procedures which a person shall
9 successfully complete in order to be **【certified】** licensed or to renew
10 a license as an **【EMT】** emergency medical technician.

11 **【b.** A person who possesses a current EMT certification in good
12 standing from another state, territory, or possession of the United
13 States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto
14 Rico may obtain an EMT certification from the commissioner to
15 provide basic life support and may make application therefor on
16 forms prescribed by the commissioner.**】**

17 c. The commissioner shall make a determination regarding
18 applications of candidates for **【certification】** licensure as an
19 **【EMT】** emergency medical technician within 30 days of the receipt
20 of a complete application and background check. The determination
21 may provide that the commissioner requires more time to
22 adequately review the application. An application may be denied if
23 the application is incomplete, contains false or fraudulent
24 information, or the applicant has been suspended or revoked in any
25 other state or jurisdiction or would otherwise be ineligible for
26 **【EMT certification】** emergency medical technician licensure, as
27 determined by the commissioner.

28 **【The commissioner shall approve an application upon**
29 **determining that the certification standards of the applicant's**
30 **certifying jurisdiction exceed or are equivalent to the EMT**
31 **certification standards established by the commissioner and the**
32 **applicant is not disqualified pursuant to P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-**
33 **65.1 et al.).】**

34 d. **【Applicants for EMT certification, who have equivalent**
35 **military training or experience in any branch of the active duty or**
36 **reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States or the**
37 **National Guard of any state, shall be certified by the commissioner**
38 **if the commissioner determines that the applicant's military training**
39 **and experience exceed or are equivalent to the certification**
40 **standards established by the commissioner】** The department shall
41 maintain a register of all applicants for licensure pursuant to this
42 section, which register shall include, but not be limited to:

43 (1) the name and residence of the applicant;

44 (2) the date of the application; and

45 (3) information as to whether the applicant was rejected or
46 licensed and the date of that action.

1 e. (1) The commissioner shall have the authority to summarily
2 suspend a person's emergency medical technician license when, in
3 the commissioner's opinion, the continued licensure of that person
4 poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety, or
5 welfare.

6 (2) A person whose emergency medical technician license has
7 been summarily suspended shall have the right to apply for
8 emergency relief, as provided for by regulation.

9 (3) The commissioner may issue a formal written warning,
10 impose a monetary penalty, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or
11 refuse to issue or renew the license of any emergency medical
12 technician for violation of any of the rules adopted by the
13 department
14 concerning the practice of emergency medical technicians.

15 (cf: P.L.2023, c.229, s.1)

16
17 8. Section 2 of P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-65.1) is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 2. a. The Department of Health shall not issue a certification to
20 a mobility assistance vehicle operator or license to an [EMT]
21 emergency medical technician or emergency medical responder
22 candidate unless the commissioner first determines, consistent with
23 the requirements of sections **[1] 7** through **[4] 13** of **[P.L.2023,**
24 **c.229 (C.26:2K-65 through 26:2K-65.3)]** P.L. __, c. __ (C. __)
25 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), that no criminal history
26 record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of
27 Investigation, Identification Division, or in the State Bureau of
28 Identification in the Division of State Police, which would
29 disqualify that person from being certified or licensed.

30 An **[EMT certified]** emergency medical technician or emergency
31 medical responder licensed, or mobility assistance vehicle operator
32 certified, by the department prior to the effective date of **[P.L.2023,**
33 **c.229 (C.26:2K-65.1 et al.)]** P.L. __, c. __ (C. __) (pending before
34 the Legislature as this bill) who has not undergone a criminal
35 history record background check, shall undergo the criminal history
36 record background check as a condition of that individual's
37 recertification or licensure renewal following the effective date of
38 **[P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-65.1 et al.)]** P.L. __, c. __ (C. __)
39 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

40 A follow-up criminal history record background check of federal
41 records shall be conducted at least once every three years as a
42 condition of recertification or licensure renewal for every **[EMT]**
43 mobility assistance vehicle operator, emergency medical technician,
44 and emergency medical responder.

45 b. An **[EMT]** emergency medical technician or emergency
46 medical responder candidate shall be disqualified from
47 **[certification]** licensure, and a mobility assistance vehicle operator

1 candidate shall be disqualified from certification, if that candidate's
2 criminal history record background check reveals a record of
3 conviction of any of the following crimes or offenses:

4 (1) In New Jersey, any crime or disorderly persons offense:

5 (a) involving danger to the person, meaning those crimes and
6 disorderly persons offenses set forth in N.J.S.2C:11-1 et seq.,
7 N.J.S.2C:12-1 et seq., N.J.S.2C:13-1 et seq., N.J.S.2C:14-1 et seq.,
8 or N.J.S.2C:15-1 et seq.;

9 (b) involving arson as set forth in N.J.S.2C:17-1 or causing or
10 risking widespread injury or damage as set forth in N.J.S.2C:17-2;

11 (c) involving forgery and fraudulent offenses as set forth in
12 chapter 21 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes;

13 (d) against the family, children, or incompetents, meaning those
14 crimes and disorderly persons offenses set forth in N.J.S.2C:24-1 et
15 seq.;

16 (e) involving theft as set forth in chapter 20 of Title 2C of the
17 New Jersey Statutes;

18 (f) involving any controlled dangerous substance or controlled
19 substance analog as set forth in chapter 35 of Title 2C of the New
20 Jersey Statutes; or

21 (g) that would qualify the person for registration pursuant to
22 section 2 of P.L.1994, c.133 (C.2C:7-2).

23 (2) In any other state or jurisdiction, of any crime or disorderly
24 persons offense involving conduct which, if committed in this State,
25 would constitute any of the crimes or disorderly offenses described
26 in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

27 c. Except for a disqualification based on conviction for a crime
28 enumerated in subparagraph (g) of paragraph (1) of subsection b. of
29 this section or a crime in any other state or jurisdiction involving
30 conduct which, if committed in this State, would constitute a crime
31 enumerated in subparagraph (g) of paragraph (1) of subsection b. of
32 this section, a person shall not be disqualified from licensure or
33 certification on the basis of any conviction disclosed by a criminal
34 history record background check performed pursuant to the
35 requirements of this **[act]** section if the person has affirmatively
36 demonstrated to the commissioner clear and convincing evidence of
37 the person's rehabilitation.

38 In determining whether a person has affirmatively demonstrated
39 rehabilitation, the following factors shall be considered:

40 (1) the nature and responsibility of the position which the
41 convicted person would hold, has held, or currently holds, as the
42 case may be;

43 (2) the nature and seriousness of the offense;

44 (3) the circumstances under which the offense occurred;

45 (4) the date of the offense;

46 (5) the age of the person when the offense was committed;

47 (6) whether the offense was an isolated or repeated incident;

1 (7) any social conditions which may have contributed to the
2 offense; and

3 (8) any evidence of rehabilitation, including good conduct in
4 prison or in the community, counseling or psychiatric treatment
5 received, acquisition of additional academic or vocational
6 schooling, successful participation in correctional work-release
7 programs, or the recommendation of those who have had the person
8 under their supervision.

9 d. If a person subject to the provisions of **sections 1 through 4**
10 **of P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-65 through 26:2K-65.3)** this section
11 refuses to consent to, or cooperate in, the securing of a criminal
12 history background check, the commissioner shall, as applicable:

13 (1) not issue an **EMT certification** emergency medical
14 technician or emergency medical responder license or mobility
15 assistance vehicle operator certification; or

16 (2) revoke the person's **EMT certification** emergency medical
17 technician or emergency medical responder license or mobility
18 assistance vehicle operator certification.

19 (cf: P.L.2023, c.229, s.2)
20

21 9. Section 3 of P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-65.2) is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 3. a. An applicant for certification as a mobility assistance
24 vehicle operator or licensure as an **EMT** emergency medical
25 technician or emergency medical responder who is required to
26 undergo a criminal history record background check pursuant to
27 section 2 of P.L.2023, c.229 [(C.26:2K-65.1 et al.)] (C.26-2K-65.1)
28 shall submit to the commissioner that individual's name, address,
29 and fingerprints in accordance with the standards established by the
30 New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for
31 civil applicants. The commissioner is authorized to exchange
32 fingerprint data with and receive criminal history record
33 information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the
34 Division of State Police for use in making the determinations
35 required by section 2 of P.L.2023, c.229 [(C.26:2K-65.1 et al.)]
36 (C.26:2K-65.1).

37 b. Upon receipt of the criminal history record information for a
38 person from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Division of
39 State Police, the commissioner shall immediately notify, in writing,
40 the applicant of the results of the criminal history record
41 background check. If the person is disqualified, the conviction or
42 convictions which constitute the basis for the disqualification shall
43 be identified in the notice to the person, but shall not be identified
44 to any other person.

45 c. The person who is the subject of the background check shall
46 have 30 days from the date of the written notice of disqualification
47 to petition the commissioner for a hearing on the accuracy of the

1 person's criminal history record information or to establish the
2 person's rehabilitation under subsection c. of section 2 of P.L.2023,
3 c.229 (C.26:2K-65.1). Upon the issuance of a final decision
4 following a petition to the commissioner pursuant to this
5 subsection, the commissioner shall notify the person as to whether
6 the person remains disqualified from licensure or certification.
7 (cf: P.L.2023, c.229, s.3)

8
9 10. Section 4 of P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-65.3) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 4. The Department of Health may require a candidate for an
12 **【EMT certification】** emergency medical technician or emergency
13 medical '【response】 responder' license or mobility assistance
14 vehicle operator certification to bear the costs of the criminal
15 history record background check as may be deemed necessary by
16 the department.
17 (cf: P.L.2023, c.229, s.4)

18
19 11. (New section) a. An emergency medical responder shall
20 obtain licensure from the commissioner to provide initial medical
21 care and transportation services, as defined by the most current
22 National EMS Scope of Practice Model published by the National
23 Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and shall make an
24 application therefor on forms prescribed by the commissioner.

25 b. The commissioner shall establish written standards and
26 application procedures which an emergency medical responder shall
27 meet in order to obtain licensure or to renew licensure as an
28 emergency medical responder. The commissioner shall license a
29 candidate who provides satisfactory evidence of the successful
30 completion of an educational program approved by the
31 commissioner for the training of emergency medical responders and
32 who passes an examination approved by the department for the
33 licensure. The commissioner shall approve at least two educational
34 programs that can be completed to satisfy the educational
35 requirements of this subsection.

36 c. The department shall maintain a register of all applicants for
37 licensure hereunder, which register shall include but not be limited
38 to:

- 39 (1) the name and residence of the applicant;
40 (2) the date of the application; and
41 (3) information as to whether the applicant was rejected or
42 licensed and the date of that action.

43 d. (1) The commissioner shall have the authority to summarily
44 suspend a person's emergency medical responder license when, in
45 the commissioner's opinion, the continued licensure of that person
46 poses an immediate or serious threat to the public health, safety, or
47 welfare.

1 (2) A person whose emergency medical responder license has
2 been summarily suspended shall have the right to apply for
3 emergency relief, as provided for by regulation.

4 (3) The commissioner may issue a formal written warning,
5 impose a monetary penalty, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or
6 refuse to issue or renew the license of any emergency medical
7 responder for violation of any of the rules adopted by the
8 department concerning the practice of emergency medical
9 responders.

10

11 12. (New section) a. The Commissioner of Health shall
12 establish written standards which a person shall successfully
13 complete in order to be licensed as an emergency medical
14 technician or emergency medical responder by reciprocity.

15 b. A person who possesses a current emergency medical
16 technician or emergency medical responder license in good standing
17 from another state, territory, or possession of the United States, the
18 District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may
19 obtain an emergency medical technician or emergency medical
20 responder license, as applicable, from the commissioner and may
21 make an application therefor on forms prescribed by the
22 commissioner.

23 c. The commissioner shall make a determination regarding
24 applications of candidates for licensure by reciprocity as an
25 emergency medical technician or emergency medical responder
26 within 30 days of the receipt of a complete application and
27 background check. The determination may provide that the
28 commissioner requires more time to adequately review the
29 application. An application may be denied if the application is
30 incomplete, contains false or fraudulent information, or the
31 applicant has been suspended or revoked in any other state or
32 jurisdiction or would otherwise be ineligible for emergency medical
33 technician or emergency medical responder licensure, as determined
34 by the commissioner.

35 The commissioner shall approve an application upon determining
36 that the certification or licensure standards of the applicant's
37 certifying or licensing jurisdiction exceed or are equivalent to the
38 emergency medical technician and emergency medical responder
39 standards established by the commissioner and the applicant is not
40 disqualified pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2023, c.229 (C.26:2K-
41 65.1).

42 d. Applicants for emergency medical technician or emergency
43 medical responder licensure, who have equivalent military training
44 or experience in any branch of the active duty or reserve component
45 of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard of
46 any state, shall be licensed by the commissioner if the
47 commissioner determines that the applicant's military training and

1 experience exceed or are equivalent to the licensing standards
2 established by the commissioner

3

4 13. (New section) a. A mobility assistance vehicle operator
5 shall obtain certification from the commissioner to provide non-
6 emergent transportation on a licensed mobility assistance vehicle
7 and shall make an application therefor on forms prescribed by the
8 commissioner.

9 b. The commissioner shall establish written standards and
10 application procedures which a mobility assistance vehicle operator
11 shall meet in order to obtain certification or renew certification as a
12 mobility assistance vehicle operator. The commissioner shall
13 certify a candidate who provides satisfactory evidence of the
14 successful completion of an educational program approved by the
15 commissioner for the training of mobility assistance vehicle
16 operators and who passes an examination approved by the
17 department for certification.

18 c. The department shall maintain a register of all applicants for
19 certification pursuant to this section, which register shall include,
20 but not be limited to:

21 (1) the name and residence of the applicant;

22 (2) the date of application; and

23 (3) information as to whether the applicant was rejected or
24 certified and the date of that action.

25 d. (1) The commissioner shall have the authority to summarily
26 suspend a person's mobility assistance vehicle operator certification
27 when, in the commissioner's opinion, the continued certification of
28 that person poses an immediate or serious threat to the public
29 health, safety or welfare.

30 (2) A person whose mobility assistance vehicle operator
31 certification has been summarily suspended shall have the right to
32 apply for emergency relief, as provided for by regulation.

33 (3) The commissioner may issue a formal written warning,
34 impose a monetary penalty, place on probation, suspend, revoke, or
35 refuse to issue or renew the certification of any mobility assistance
36 vehicle operator for violation of any of the rules adopted by the
37 department concerning the practice of mobility assistance vehicle
38 operators.

39

40 14. Section 1 of P.L.2017, c.116 (C.26:2K-66) is amended to
41 read as follows:

42 1. As used in P.L.2017, c.116 (C.26:2K-66 et seq.):

43 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health.

44 "Department" means the Department of Health.

45 "Emergency medical responder" means an individual who is
46 trained to assist and provide initial medical care and transportation
47 services in accordance with the standards for emergency medical
48 responders, as defined by the most current National EMS Scope of

1 Practice Model and the National EMS Standards published by the
2 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and who is
3 licensed by the Department of Health to provide such services.

4 “Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council” means the
5 Emergency Medical Services Council constituted in the department
6 as of the effective date of P.L.2017, c.116 (C.26:2K-66 et seq.),
7 which serves as the main emergency medical services advisory
8 council to the commissioner and the Office of Emergency Medical
9 Services, makes recommendations and advises on emergency
10 medical services in New Jersey, monitors legislative developments
11 at all levels and in other states, and supports Statewide public
12 information and education for consumers regarding emergency
13 medical services.

14 “Emergency Medical Services Task Force” means the
15 Emergency Medical Services Task Force constituted in the
16 department as of the effective date of P.L.2017, c.116 (C.26:2K-66
17 et seq.).

18 “Emergency medical services dispatch center” means any
19 communications center which provides services in connection with
20 the coordination of requests for emergency medical services,
21 including, but not limited to, call intake, call processing, emergency
22 medical dispatch, call triage, unit assignment, and dispatch and
23 tracking of any emergency medical services provider or other first
24 responder.

25 “Emergency medical services provider” means any association,
26 organization, company, department, agency, service, program, unit,
27 or other entity that provides pre-hospital emergency medical care to
28 patients in this State, including, but not limited to, a basic life
29 support ambulance service, a mobile intensive care unit, an air
30 medical service, or a volunteer or non-volunteer first aid, rescue,
31 and ambulance squad.

32 “First responder” means a federal, State, or local law
33 enforcement or police officer, firefighter, emergency medical
34 personnel, hazardous materials response team members, 9-1-1
35 dispatcher, or any other person who [has been trained to provide
36 emergency medical first response services in a program recognized
37 by the commissioner] is responsible for the protection and
38 preservation of life and property and is directed to respond to, or
39 happens upon, an incident that could result in loss of property,
40 death, or serious injury.

41 “Opioid antidote” means naloxone hydrochloride, or any other
42 similarly acting drug approved by the United States Food and Drug
43 Administration for the treatment of an opioid overdose.

44 “Pre-hospital emergency medical care” means the provision of
45 emergency medical care or transportation by trained and certified or
46 licensed emergency medical services personnel at the scene of an

1 emergency and while transporting sick or injured persons to a
2 medical care facility or provider.

3 (cf: P.L.2017, c.116, s.1)

4
5 15. (New section) a. Each mobility assistance vehicle service
6 provider, specialty care transport unit, and basic life support unit
7 used for ¹**non-emergent** medical transportation shall complete
8 and submit to the department an electronic patient care report for
9 each patient encounter in which the patient received
10 ¹**nonemergency** health care transportation services. The
11 electronic patient care report required by this subsection shall be
12 submitted to the department in such format as prescribed by the
13 commissioner, and shall include, but not be limited to, the data
14 elements utilized in the most recent National Emergency Medical
15 Services Information System.

16 b. The commissioner shall establish, by regulation and as
17 appropriate for each type of service provider, requirements for:

18 (1) the collection of data that is to be obtained from each patient
19 encounter pursuant to this section;

20 (2) the creation and use of the patient care report to provide the
21 data contained therein in electronic form to the receiving facility in
22 a timely manner; and

23 (3) the electronic reporting of this data to the department.

24 c. The department shall develop and maintain an electronic
25 record of the patient data reported pursuant to this section and shall
26 make such non-identifying patient data available for research
27 purposes, in accordance with guidelines to be established by the
28 commissioner and subject to the requirements and restrictions of
29 State and federal laws and regulations.

30 d. Each certified mobility assistance vehicle operator and
31 licensed emergency medical responder, mobile intensive care
32 paramedic, registered professional nurse, and emergency medical
33 technician, who submits an electronic patient care report pursuant to
34 this section, shall utilize a unique identification number, as
35 designated and issued by the department, when submitting the
36 electronic patient care report.

37 e. The commissioner may adopt rules and regulations as may be
38 necessary to implement the provisions of this section, which rules
39 and regulations shall be effective immediately upon filing with the
40 Office of Administrative Law for a period not to exceed 18 months,
41 and may, thereafter, be amended, adopted, or readopted in
42 accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure
43 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

44
45 16. (New section) ¹**Each** Upon request by the department,
46 each¹ hospital transfer center in the State shall be required to
47 provide ¹**],** in such form and manner as the commissioner shall

1 prescribe,]¹ data concerning patient referrals and transfers ¹[upon
2 request by the Department of Health] in such form and manner as
3 may be necessary to protect against the disclosure of any
4 confidential or personal identifying information and as determined
5 by the commissioner. Information reported pursuant to this section
6 shall be maintained as confidential and shall not be considered a
7 public record under P.L. 1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.)¹ .

8
9 17. (New section) The Department of Health shall conduct a
10 study on the quality of emergency medical services care and
11 workforce in the State, ¹at such times as the department has
12 collected the data required pursuant to section 15 of this act for a
13 period of 12 months,¹ and shall prepare and submit a written report,
14 within ¹[18] 12¹ months of the ¹[effective date of this act, P.L. ,
15 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)]
16 collection of such data¹ , to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2
17 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, which shall
18 include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

19 (1) clinician burnout for emergency medical technicians, by
20 evaluating, at a minimum, the average number of work hours per
21 week per month, burnout scales, the number of clinical hours on
22 shift as compared to number of hours off shift, and whether new
23 guidelines for clinical hour requirements would increase emergency
24 medical technician workload and by how much;

25 (2) crew configuration;

26 (3) patient throughput, including transport and discharge times
27 for patients from initiation to completion;

28 (4) hospital-based outcomes compared to private-based
29 outcomes and metrics; and

30 (5) patient injuries, investigations, and complaints.

31
32 18. Section 1 of P.L.1981, c.51 (C.18A:39-20.1) is amended to
33 read as follows:

34 1. a. Notwithstanding any statute or regulation to the contrary,
35 any board of education, governing body of a nonpublic school, or
36 State agency may authorize qualified school personnel, State
37 employees, or parents to transport school children to and from
38 related school activities in a private vehicle with a capacity of eight
39 or less. The board of education, governing body of a nonpublic
40 school, or State agency may also designate school personnel to
41 transport school children to and from school. The designated
42 personnel will only be deemed qualified to transport school children
43 to and from school if the designated school personnel meet the
44 following criteria:

45 (1) be at least 21 years of age;

46 (2) possess a New Jersey driver's license for a minimum of three
47 years;

1 (3) have a completed physical on file with the school district or
2 local education agency;

3 (4) have completed a criminal history background check by the
4 New Jersey Department of Education and a Child Abuse Record
5 Information check;

6 (5) submit a driving record for the past five years demonstrating
7 evidence of no alcohol- or drug-related motor vehicle violations;
8 and

9 (6) have completed the training program established in
10 accordance with P.L.2015, c.123 (C.18A:39-19.2 et seq.) on
11 appropriate procedures for interacting with students with special
12 needs.

13 The designated personnel that meet these criteria must utilize a
14 vehicle that does not exceed a maximum seating capacity of eight
15 passengers, excluding the driver, to transport school children to and
16 from school.

17 Any person authorized by a board, body, or agency to provide
18 such transportation services shall not be required to be licensed or
19 regulated as a school bus driver. Such transportation shall be
20 exempt from all registration, equipment, inspection, and
21 maintenance requirements imposed on the transportation of pupils
22 by school bus. Evidence of appropriate automobile insurance
23 requirements for the vehicle must be submitted by the board of
24 education, governing body of a nonpublic school, or State agency to
25 the Executive County Superintendent by a date set by the
26 Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education.

27 Each year prior to transporting school children, the board of
28 education, governing body of a nonpublic school, or State agency
29 designating school personnel as qualified to transport school
30 children to and from school pursuant to this law must submit the list
31 of designated drivers to the Executive County Superintendent by a
32 date set by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of
33 Education. Only school personnel submitted by that date will be
34 eligible to transport school children to and from school for a given
35 school year.

36 The board of education, governing body of a nonpublic school,
37 or State agency designating school personnel as qualified to
38 transport school children to and from school pursuant to this law
39 must also submit periodic copies of the designated personnel's
40 driving record showing no alcohol- or drug-related motor vehicle
41 violations or any other motor vehicle violations that would
42 disqualify the driver's eligibility of transporting school children
43 pursuant to Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and Title 39 of the
44 Revised Statutes to the Executive County Superintendent by a date
45 set, and at a frequency set, by the Commissioner of the New Jersey
46 Department of Education. Failure to provide the requisite driving
47 record within the prescribed time frame will result in the removal of
48 that individual from the list of designated drivers.

1 b. Notwithstanding any statute or regulation to the contrary,
2 any board of education, governing body of a nonpublic school, or
3 State agency may authorize a **person certified as a mobility**
4 **assistance vehicle technician** mobility assistance vehicle operator
5 to transport a student with medical needs to and from school or
6 related school activities in a mobility assistance vehicle. Any
7 **certified mobility assistance vehicle technician** mobility
8 assistance vehicle operator authorized by a board, body, or agency
9 to provide such transportation services shall not be required to be
10 licensed or regulated as a school bus driver. Such transportation
11 shall be exempt from all registration, equipment, inspection, and
12 maintenance requirements imposed on the transportation of students
13 by a school bus.

14 Each year prior to transporting students, a **certified mobility**
15 **assistance vehicle technician** mobility assistance vehicle operator
16 who transports a student with medical needs in accordance with this
17 section shall furnish to the executive county superintendent a
18 criminal history background check and evidence of a check for the
19 technician's record of alcohol- and drug-related motor vehicle
20 violations.

21 For the purposes of this subsection, "student with medical needs"
22 means a school-aged child who suffers from a life-threatening
23 medical condition and, as a result of such condition, requires more
24 individualized and continuous care.

25 (cf: P.L.2024, c.81, s.1)
26

27 19. Section 1 of P.L.1981, c.134 (C.30:4D-6.2) is amended to
28 read as follows:

29 1. For the purposes of this act:

30 a. **“Certified trained personnel”** means one or more
31 individuals directly providing mobility assistance vehicle services
32 possessing and carrying upon their persons a current certificate of
33 completion of an advanced medical training course, as determined
34 by the Commissioner of Health. **](deleted by amendment,**
35 P.L. , c.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

36 b. **“Division”** means the Division of Medical Assistance and
37 Health Services in the Department of Human Services.

38 c. **“Mobility assistance vehicle service provider”** means **the**
39 **provision of]** an entity that is licensed by the Department of Health
40 to provide nonemergency health care transportation **],** supervised
41 by certified trained personnel, **]** for Medicaid recipients who are
42 sick, have an infirmity, or have a disability, and who are under the
43 care and supervision of a physician and whose medical condition is
44 not of sufficient magnitude or gravity to require transportation by
45 ambulance, but does require transportation from place to place for
46 medical care and whose use of an alternate form of transportation,

1 such as taxicab, bus, other public conveyance or private vehicle
2 might create a serious risk to life and health.

3 d. “Medicaid recipient” means any person who is determined to
4 be eligible to receive mobility assistance vehicle services as
5 provided under P.L.1981, c.134 (C.30:4D-6.2 et seq.) and meets the
6 eligibility requirements pursuant to the "New Jersey Medical
7 Assistance and Health Services Act," P.L.1968, c. 413.

8 e. “Provider” means **any person, public or private institution,**
9 **agency or business concern lawfully** a mobility assistance vehicle
10 service provider providing mobility assistance vehicle services
11 authorized under P.L.1981, c.134 (C.30:4D-6.2).

12 f. “Mobility assistance vehicle operator” means an individual
13 trained to provide mobility assistance vehicle services and who is
14 certified by the Department of Health to provide such services.

15 (cf: P.L.2017, c.131, s.118)

16
17 20. Section 3 of P.L.1981, c.134 (C.30:4D-6.4) is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 3. After consulting with the Commissioner of Human Services,
20 the Commissioner of Health is authorized and empowered to issue
21 and enforce, or cause to be issued and enforced through the
22 division, all necessary rules, regulations, and administrative orders
23 with respect to:

24 a. The development of minimum requirements concerning the
25 equipment, supplies, and vehicles of providers of mobility
26 assistance vehicle services;

27 b. The establishment of standards for the amount of liability
28 insurance each provider must maintain in order to be eligible to
29 provide mobility assistance vehicle services. Evidence of such
30 insurance, including the name of the insurer and the policy number,
31 shall be filed at the time of application for approval by the division
32 and from time to time as the division shall deem necessary; and

33 c. The establishment of standards for **certified trained**
34 **personnel** mobility assistance vehicle operators employed by
35 providers of mobility assistance vehicle services.

36 (cf: P.L.2012, c.17, s.360)

37
38 21. (New section) Any individual who violates a provision of
39 this chapter shall be subject to a penalty of \$200 for the first offense
40 and \$500 for each subsequent offense. If the violation of this
41 chapter is of a continuing nature, each day during which it
42 continues shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty shall be
43 collected and enforced by summary proceedings under the “Penalty
44 Enforcement Law of 1999,” P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).

45
46 22. (New section) ¹a.¹ The provisions of this act shall not
47 supersede any Certificate of Waiver for Basic Life Support Services

1 issued by the Department of Health in effect on the date of
2 enactment or as subsequently extended or amended.

3 ¹b. Upon receiving notice from a person, business, or agency
4 that is certified, licensed, or otherwise approved by the department
5 to render basic or advanced life support services of that person,
6 business, or agency's intent to apply for renewal of the certification,
7 license, or approval in accordance with the requirements of this act,
8 the department may establish a process by which the department
9 may issue a transitional certification, license, or approval
10 authorizing the person, business, or agency to continue existing
11 operations pending the review of the person, business, or agency's
12 renewal application.

13 c. Upon receiving notice from a person, business, or agency that
14 is authorized by a waiver issued by the department to render basic
15 or advanced life support services of that person, business, or
16 agency's intent to apply for certification or licensure in accordance
17 with the requirements of this act, the department may establish a
18 process by which the department, may issue a transitional
19 certification or license authorizing the person, business, or agency
20 to continue existing operations pending the review of the person,
21 business, or agency's application.¹

22
23 23. (New section) ¹**【**Within 12 months of the effective date of
24 this act, the **】** The¹ Commissioner of Health shall adopt ¹such¹ rules
25 and regulations, ¹**【**pursuant to**】** in accordance with¹ the
26 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
27 seq.), as ¹the commissioner deems¹ necessary to implement the
28 provisions of this act.

29
30 24. P.L.1985, c.351 (C.26:2K-21 through C.26:2K-34) and
31 P.L.1989, c.214 (C.26:2K-39 through C.26:2K-47) are repealed.

32
33 25. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
34 next following the date of enactment, but the Commissioner of
35 Health may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance
36 thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.