

SENATE BILL 159

J1

(6lr1428)

ENROLLED BILL

— Education, Energy, and the Environment/Health —

Introduced by **Senator A. Washington**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Emergency Medical Services – Vehicles and Ambulances – Required Supplies,**
3 **~~Reviews, and Complaints~~**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute for
5 Emergency Medical Services Systems to coordinate, *with a certain program*, the
6 minimum equipment, supplies, and medications to be available on emergency
7 medical services vehicles; ~~requiring each county and municipality that operates or~~
8 ~~contracts emergency medical services to conduct quarterly reviews of certain data~~
9 ~~and to certify completion of each review; requiring each county to establish and~~
10 ~~maintain a formal complaint filing system regarding ambulance quality, conduct, or~~
11 ~~compliance;~~ and generally relating to emergency medical services vehicles and
12 ambulances.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Education

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Section 13–501(a), (f), and (g)
 2 Annotated Code of Maryland
 3 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

4 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 5 Article – Education
 6 Section 13–510
 7 Annotated Code of Maryland
 8 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

9 ~~BY adding to~~
 10 ~~Article – Education~~
 11 ~~Section 13–510~~
 12 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 13 ~~(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 13–501.

18 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (f) “EMS Board” means the State Emergency Medical Services Board.

20 (g) “Institute” means the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services
 21 Systems.

22 13–510.

23 In accordance with the Emergency Medical System plan and other relevant policies
 24 adopted by the EMS Board, the Executive Director shall:

25 (1) Coordinate a statewide system of emergency medical services;

26 (2) Coordinate the five emergency medical service regions in this State;

27 (3) Coordinate the planning and operation of emergency medical services
 28 with the federal, State, and county governments;

29 (4) Coordinate the training of all personnel in the Emergency Medical
 30 Services System and develop the necessary standards for their certification or licensure;

31 (5) Coordinate programs of research and education that relate to
 32 emergency medical services;

1 (6) Coordinate the development of centers for treating emergency injuries
2 and illnesses;

3 (7) Coordinate the development of specialty referral centers for
4 resuscitation, treatment, and rehabilitation of the critically ill and injured;

5 (8) COORDINATE, ~~WITH THE JURISDICTIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL~~
6 ~~SERVICES OPERATING PROGRAM PROGRAMS,~~ THE MINIMUM EQUIPMENT,
7 SUPPLIES, AND MEDICATIONS, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND
8 MEDICATIONS NEEDED FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE, INCLUDING NEONATAL CARE,
9 TO BE AVAILABLE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES VEHICLES ~~WITH THE~~
10 ~~FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS;~~

11 [(8)] (9) Work closely with the public and private agencies, health care
12 institutions and universities involved with emergency medical services, the Emergency
13 Medical Services Advisory Council, and the Medical Management Consultant Group;

14 [(9)] (10) Administer State and federal funds for emergency medical
15 services in this State;

16 [(10)] (11) Work closely with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, which
17 is responsible for basic training for emergency medical technicians;

18 [(11)] (12) Assure continued improvement of transportation for emergency,
19 critically ill, and injured patients by supporting the goals of career and volunteer systems
20 throughout this State; and

21 [(12)] (13) Implement all programmatic, operational, and administrative
22 components of the Institute.

23 ~~13-519.~~

24 (A) (1) ~~IN THIS SECTION, "AMBULANCE" MEANS ANY CONVEYANCE~~
25 ~~DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED OR MODIFIED AND EQUIPPED TO BE USED,~~
26 ~~MAINTAINED, OR OPERATED TO TRANSPORT SICK, INJURED, WOUNDED, OR~~
27 ~~OTHERWISE INCAPACITATED INDIVIDUALS.~~

28 (2) ~~"AMBULANCE" INCLUDES A CONVEYANCE DESIGNED AND~~
29 ~~CONSTRUCTED OR MODIFIED AND EQUIPPED FOR AEROMEDICAL TRANSPORT.~~

30 (B) (1) ~~EACH COUNTY AND MUNICIPALITY THAT OPERATES OR~~
31 ~~CONTRACTS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SHALL:~~

1 ~~(I) CONDUCT QUARTERLY REVIEWS OF AMBULANCE~~
2 ~~PERFORMANCE DATA PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTE;~~

3 ~~(II) CERTIFY COMPLETION OF EACH REVIEW; AND~~

4 ~~(III) SUBMIT A SUMMARY OF EACH REVIEW TO THE INSTITUTE.~~

5 ~~(2) A REVIEW CONDUCTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS~~
6 ~~SUBSECTION SHALL:~~

7 ~~(I) ASSESS:~~

8 ~~1. RESPONSE TIMES;~~

9 ~~2. SERVICE QUALITY; AND~~

10 ~~3. COMPLIANCE WITH INSTITUTE STANDARDS;~~

11 ~~(II) IDENTIFY TRENDS AND DEFICIENCIES IN SERVICES; AND~~

12 ~~(III) ALLOW A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY TO ADOPT~~
13 ~~CORRECTIVE MEASURES AND MAKE OPERATIONAL ADJUSTMENTS.~~

14 ~~(C) (1) EACH COUNTY SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A FORMAL~~
15 ~~COMPLAINT FILING SYSTEM TO RECEIVE, INVESTIGATE, AND RESOLVE COMPLAINTS~~
16 ~~REGARDING AMBULANCE QUALITY, CONDUCT, OR COMPLIANCE.~~

17 ~~(2) THE FORMAL COMPLAINT FILING SYSTEM SHALL:~~

18 ~~(I) BE ACCESSIBLE ONLINE AND IN PERSON;~~

19 ~~(II) INCLUDE TRACKING, INVESTIGATION TIMELINES, AND~~
20 ~~NOTIFICATIONS; AND~~

21 ~~(III) REPORT COMPLAINT DATA AND RESOLUTIONS QUARTERLY~~
22 ~~TO THE INSTITUTE.~~

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2026.