



K A N S A S

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KANSAS BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Date: February 10, 2005
To: Dr. Jim Morrison, Chair and Members
House Health and Human Services Committee
From: David Lake, Lawrence, Kansas, representing the Board of EMS
RE: Proponent Testimony on HB2158

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, Thank You! for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of HB 2158. 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 certification as a Kansas EMS attendant, whether permanent or temporary.

The purpose of the bill is to clarify the Board's position on temporary certification and legal recognition in verifying that an attendant seeking Kansas certification who was **NOT** trained in Kansas has received, or will be required to obtain, training that is comparable to what is required of those trained in our State. The Board feels strongly that this is necessary and important with regard to our primary mission of protecting the public because of the wide disparity in training requirements of the other States and territories.

The following is an item-by-item explanation of the proposed amendments to the current statute:

- I (1)(A) - This change increases the length of time a candidate has to make application for certification from one year to two years from the date of last class of a course of instruction approved by the Board. This is being recommended to match the time-frame allowed by the National Registry of EMT's, the organization we currently use for the initial testing of our students.
- II (2) - These changes identify and clarify the requirements that must be met in order for someone to gain Kansas certification as an attendant.
 - (A) If **NOT** trained in Kansas, must be currently certified in another jurisdiction (State or Territory) or with the NREMT at the level of certification for which application is made; the application will require documentation of applicant's training and if **NOT** comparable to Kansas requirements, applicant will have to successfully complete the training prior to receiving full Kansas certification.

- (B) Has successfully completed a Kansas approved course of instruction at the level of certification being sought;
- (C) Has paid the applicable fees.
- (b) removes the STATE requirement for an MICT to be first certified as an EMT. The NREMT requires that MICT applicants be certified as an EMT and this proposed change will allow us some flexibility with regard to the MICT/RN bridge program developed by our agency.
- III (c) - The date is being eliminated, primarily as a clean-up measure as this was only added four years ago when we went to biennial certification. The date is no longer required.
- IV The following changes reflect the Board's proposal for issuing a temporary certification.
 - (d)(1) This proposed change will allow the Board to issue a temporary certification to an individual, rather than a service, **IF** that person does not meet the criteria for gaining full certification as identified earlier in this statute.
 - (2) This proposed change increases the length of time a temporary certificate is valid from one year to a maximum of two years from the date of issuance.

Again, Thank You for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I will be glad to answer any questions or respond to any comments or concerns you may have.