

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

400Y0238

SENATE BILL NO. 48

Introduced by: The Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of the
Department of Health

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for the certification of emergency medical
2 responders.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That § 34-11-2 be amended to read:

5 34-11-2. Terms used in §§ 34-11-2 to 34-11-10, inclusive, mean:

- 6 (1) "Air ambulance," an aircraft, fixed wing, or helicopter, that is designated or can be
7 quickly modified to provide transportation of wounded, injured, sick, invalid, or
8 incapacitated human beings or expectant mothers;
- 9 (2) "Ambulance," a vehicle for emergency care with a driver compartment and a patient
10 compartment, carrying all equipment and supplies needed to provide emergency
11 medical technician-basic level emergency care at the scene and enroute to an
12 appropriate medical facility;
- 13 (3) "Ambulance service," any person or organization licensed to provide emergency
14 medical services and patient transport;
- 15 (4) "Emergency medical responder," any person certified by the Department of Health



1 trained to provide simple, noninvasive care focused on lifesaving interventions for
2 critical patients. The emergency medical responder renders on site emergency care
3 while awaiting additional emergency medical services response from an emergency
4 medical technician or higher level personnel. An emergency medical responder may
5 not make decisions independently regarding the appropriate disposition of a patient.
6 An emergency medical responder shall function with an emergency medical
7 technician or higher level personnel during the transportation of a patient;

8 (5) "License," the permit to provide ambulance service;

9 (5)(6) "Licensing agency," the Department of Health;

10 (6)(7) "Operator," any person or entity who has a license from the licensing agency to
11 provide ambulance service.

12 Section 2. That chapter 34-11 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

13 No person may practice as an emergency medical responder or represent himself or herself
14 as an emergency medical responder unless the person possesses a certification from the
15 department. The department shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, for the
16 application, qualifications, issuance, and renewal of a certification of an emergency medical
17 responder. A certification issued under this section shall be renewed biannually.