

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act  
5 is amended by changing Section 3.87 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.87)

7 Sec. 3.87. Ambulance service provider and vehicle service  
8 provider upgrades; rural population.

9 (a) In this Section, "rural ambulance service provider"  
10 means an ambulance service provider licensed under this Act  
11 that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer inhabitants.

12 In this Section, "rural vehicle service provider" means an  
13 entity that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer  
14 inhabitants and is licensed by the Department to provide  
15 emergency or non-emergency medical services in compliance with  
16 this Act, the rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this  
17 Act, and an operational plan approved by the entity's EMS  
18 System, utilizing at least an ambulance, alternate response  
19 vehicle as defined by the Department in rules, or specialized  
20 emergency medical services vehicle.

21 (b) A rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
22 service provider may submit a proposal to the EMS System  
23 Medical Director requesting approval of either or both of the

1 following:

2 (1) Rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
3 service provider in-field service level upgrade.

4 (A) An ambulance operated by a rural ambulance  
5 service provider or a specialized emergency medical  
6 services vehicle or alternate response vehicle  
7 operated by a rural vehicle service provider may be  
8 upgraded, as defined by the EMS System Medical Director  
9 in a policy or procedure, as long as the EMS System  
10 Medical Director and the Department have approved the  
11 proposal, to the highest level of EMT license (advanced  
12 life support/paramedic, intermediate life support, or  
13 basic life support) held by any person staffing that  
14 ambulance, specialized emergency medical services  
15 vehicle, or alternate response vehicle. The ambulance  
16 service provider's or rural vehicle service provider's  
17 proposal for an upgrade must include all of the  
18 following:

19 (i) The manner in which the provider will  
20 secure and store advanced life support equipment,  
21 supplies, and medications.

22 (ii) The type of quality assurance the  
23 provider will perform.

24 (iii) An assurance that the provider will  
25 advertise only the level of care that can be  
26 provided 24 hours a day.

1                    (iv) A statement that the provider will have  
2                    that vehicle inspected by the Department annually.

3                    (B) If a rural ambulance service provider or rural  
4                    vehicle service provider is approved to provide an  
5                    in-field service level upgrade based on the licensed  
6                    personnel on the vehicle, all the advanced life support  
7                    medical supplies, durable medical equipment, and  
8                    medications must be environmentally controlled,  
9                    secured, and locked with access by only the personnel  
10                    who have been authorized by the EMS System Medical  
11                    Director to utilize those supplies.

12                    (C) The EMS System shall routinely perform quality  
13                    assurance, in compliance with the EMS System's quality  
14                    assurance plan approved by the Department, on in-field  
15                    service level upgrades authorized under this Section  
16                    to ensure compliance with the EMS System plan.

17                    (2) Rural ambulance service provider or rural vehicle  
18                    service provider in-field service level upgrade. The EMS  
19                    System Medical Director may define what constitutes an  
20                    in-field service level upgrade through an EMS System policy  
21                    or procedure. An in-field service level upgrade may  
22                    include, but need not be limited to, an upgrade to a  
23                    licensed ambulance, alternate response vehicle ~~as defined~~  
24                    ~~by the Department in rules,~~ or specialized emergency  
25                    medical services vehicle.

26                    (c) If the EMS System Medical Director approves a proposal

1 for a rural in-field service level upgrade under this Section,  
2 he or she shall submit the proposal to the Department along  
3 with a statement of approval signed by him or her. Once the  
4 Department has approved the proposal, the rural ambulance  
5 service provider or rural vehicle service provider will be  
6 authorized to function at the highest level of EMT license  
7 (advanced life support/paramedic, intermediate life support,  
8 or basic life support) held by any person staffing the vehicle.  
9 (Source: P.A. 98-608, eff. 12-27-13.)

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
11 becoming law.