

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 1099

Sponsor: SENATOR MASTRIANO

Printer's No. 1419

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 3, by inserting after "for"
2 definitions, for

3 Amend Bill, page 1, line 4, by striking out "and" where it
4 occurs the second time and inserting a comma

5 Amend Bill, page 1, line 4, by inserting after "grants,"
6 for consolidation incentive, for publication and notice and for
7 award of grants,

8 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 16 through 18, by striking out all
9 of said lines and inserting

10 Section 1. The definitions of "career emergency medical
11 services," "invalid coach" and "volunteer EMS company" in
12 section 7802 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
13 Statutes are amended to read:
14 § 7802. Definitions.

15 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
16 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
17 context clearly indicates otherwise:

18 * * *

19 "Career emergency medical services." As follows:

20 (1) A for-profit chartered emergency medical service
21 corporation, association or organization which meets all of
22 the following:

23 (i) Is located in this Commonwealth.

24 (ii) Is licensed by the Department of Health.

25 (iii) Is not associated or affiliated with a
26 hospital, unless recognized in accordance with section
27 7823(b.1) (relating to award of grants).

28 (iv) Is regularly engaged in the provision of
29 emergency medical services, including basic life support
30 or advanced life support services and advanced life
31 support squads as defined in 28 Pa. Code § 1027.1
32 (relating to general provisions).

33 (2) The term shall not include a corporation,

1 association or organization that is primarily engaged in the
2 [operation of invalid coaches which are intended for the]
3 routine transport of individuals who are convalescent or
4 nonambulatory and who do not ordinarily require emergency
5 medical treatment while in transit.

6 * * *

7 ["Invalid coach." The term shall have the meaning given to
8 it in Chapter 81 (relating to emergency medical services
9 system).]

10 "Volunteer EMS company." Any nonprofit chartered
11 corporation, association or organization located in this
12 Commonwealth, which is licensed by the Department of Health and
13 is not associated or affiliated with any hospital, unless
14 recognized in accordance with section 7823(b.1) (relating to
15 award of grants), and which is regularly engaged in the
16 provision of emergency medical services, including basic life
17 support or advanced life support services and advanced life
18 support squads as defined in 28 Pa. Code § 1027.1 (relating to
19 general provisions). The term shall not include any corporation,
20 association or organization that is primarily engaged in the
21 [operation of invalid coaches which are intended for the]
22 routine transport of persons who are convalescent or otherwise
23 nonambulatory and do not ordinarily require emergency medical
24 treatment while in transit.

25 * * *

26 Section 2. Section 7812 of Title 35 is amended to read:

27 Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 6 and 7

28 Section 3. Section 7813(a)(7), (a.2), (c)(2), (d) and (e)
29 introductory paragraph and (2)(i) of Title 35 are amended and
30 the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

31 Amend Bill, page 2, line 22, by striking out all of said line
32 and inserting

33 (a.3) Additional grants.--The commissioner may establish a
34 certification bonus point system to award additional grants to
35 fire companies. The commissioner shall submit the certification
36 bonus point system to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
37 publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania
38 Bulletin concurrently with the notice required under section
39 7812 (relating to publication and notice).

40 * * *

41 (c) Time for filing application and department action.--

42 * * *

43 (2) Fire companies seeking grants under this chapter
44 shall submit completed applications to the commissioner and
45 the municipalities where the fire companies are located. The
46 following shall apply:

47 (i) The application period shall remain open for 45

1 days each year. The agency shall act to approve or
2 disapprove applications within 60 days of the application
3 submission deadline each year. Applications which have
4 not been approved or disapproved by the commissioner
5 within 60 days after the close of the application period
6 each year shall be deemed approved.

7 (ii) The commissioner may extend the application
8 period under subparagraph (i) for up to 45 additional
9 days for a single fire company, upon request by the fire
10 company, if the fire company demonstrates hardship or
11 undue burden that prevents the fire company from
12 submitting a completed application within the
13 application period specified under subparagraph (i). A
14 fire company must request an extension of the application
15 period under subparagraph (i) within 30 days of the date
16 of the end of the application period. The commissioner
17 shall have sole discretion to determine whether a fire
18 company has demonstrated hardship or undue burden under
19 this subparagraph.

20 Amend Bill, page 3, lines 4 and 5, by striking out "fire
21 chief and president" and inserting
22 or municipality

23 Amend Bill, page 3, line 6, by inserting after "addresses."

24 The fire company must submit the information required
25 under this paragraph no later than July 31 of the year of the
26 grant application.

27 Amend Bill, page 3, line 9, by striking out all of said line
28 and inserting

29 (5) Be designated by a municipality, by resolution or
30 ordinance, as a provider of fire or rescue services within
31 the municipality.

32 (e) Construction Savings Account.--A fire company may apply
33 for a grant under subsection (a) for the purpose of constructing
34 or renovating a new facility. The grant shall be deposited into
35 the Construction Savings Account, which is established within
36 the State Treasury. Money in the Construction Savings Account
37 may be withdrawn by application of the fire company. The
38 Construction Savings Account shall be administered by the
39 commissioner. The following shall apply:

40 * * *

41 (2) For a fire company to withdraw money from the
42 Construction Savings Account:

43 (i) The application shall contain the signatures of
44 two duly elected officers of the fire company or
45 municipality.

46 * * *

Section 4. Sections 7814 and 7822 of Title 35 are amended to read:

§ 7814. Consolidation incentive.

If two or more [volunteer] fire companies consolidate their use of facilities, equipment, firefighters and services, the consolidated entity may, upon notification of the commissioner, be eligible for a reduction of the interest rate payable on any outstanding principal balance owed, as of the date of consolidation, by any or all of the consolidating companies to the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan Fund for loans made under the act of July 15, 1976 (P.L.1036, No.208), known as the Volunteer Fire Company, Ambulance Service and Rescue Squad Assistance Act, or under Subchapter E of Chapter 73 (relating to Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan Program). The reduction in the interest rate payable shall be from 2% to 1%. Upon receipt of such notification, the commissioner shall determine and verify that the consolidated entity is in fact a bona fide consolidated [volunteer] fire company. If the commissioner determines that the consolidated entity is a bona fide consolidated [volunteer] fire company, the commissioner shall reduce the interest rate payable on any outstanding principal balance owed to the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan Fund for loans made under the former Volunteer Fire Company, Ambulance Service and Rescue Squad Assistance Act, or under Subchapter E of Chapter 73, for which the consolidating companies or the consolidated entity may be individually or jointly responsible. The commissioner may promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Amend Bill, page 3, by inserting between lines 16 and 17

Section 5. Section 7823(a)(7) and (c)(2) of Title 35 are amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Amend Bill, page 3, line 22, by striking out all of said line and inserting

(a.1) Additional grants.--The commissioner, in consultation with the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, may establish a certification bonus point system to award additional grants to EMS companies. The commissioner shall submit the certification bonus point system to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin concurrently with the notice required under section 7822 (relating to publication and notice).

* * *

(c) Time for filing application and department action.--

* * *

(2) EMS companies seeking grants under this chapter

1 shall submit completed applications to the commissioner. The
2 following shall apply:

3 (i) The application period shall remain open for 45
4 days each year. The commissioner shall act to approve or
5 disapprove applications within 60 days of the application
6 submission deadline each year. Applications which have
7 not been approved or disapproved by the commissioner
8 within 60 days after the close of the application period
9 each year shall be deemed approved.

10 (ii) The commissioner may extend the application
11 period under subparagraph (i) for up to 45 additional
12 days for a single EMS company, upon request by the fire
13 company, if the EMS company demonstrates hardship or
14 undue burden that prevents the EMS company from
15 submitting a completed application within the
16 application period specified under subparagraph (i). An
17 EMS company must request an extension of the application
18 period under subparagraph (i) within 30 days of the date
19 of the end of the application period. The commissioner
20 shall have sole discretion to determine whether an EMS
21 company has demonstrated hardship or undue burden under
22 this subparagraph.

23 Amend Bill, page 3, line 23, by striking out "2" and
24 inserting

25 6

26 Amend Bill, page 8, line 27, by striking out "3" and
27 inserting

28 7

29 Amend Bill, page 9, line 3, by striking out "4" and inserting
30 8

31 Amend Bill, page 9, line 17, by striking out "5" and
32 inserting

33 9

34 Amend Bill, page 9, line 29, by striking out "6" and
35 inserting

36 10

37 Amend Bill, page 9, line 29, by striking out "60" and
38 inserting

39 30