

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

*As Engrossed: H2/17/15*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1133

5 By: Representative Baltz  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE A PROGRAM FOR LICENSURE OF COMMUNITY  
9 PARAMEDICS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

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12 TO CREATE A PROGRAM FOR LICENSURE OF  
13 COMMUNITY PARAMEDICS.  
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-202 is amended to read as follows:  
20 20-13-202. Definitions.

21 As used in this subchapter:

22 (1) "Air ambulance" means an aircraft, fixed or rotary wing,  
23 utilized for on-scene responses or transports deemed necessary by a physician  
24 and licensed by the Department of Health;

25 (2) "Air ambulance services" means those services authorized and  
26 licensed by the department to provide care and air transportation of  
27 patients;

28 (3) "Ambulance" means a vehicle used for transporting any person  
29 by stretcher or gurney upon the streets or highways of Arkansas, excluding  
30 vehicles intended solely for personal use by immediate family members;

31 (4) "Ambulance services" means those services authorized and  
32 licensed by the department to provide care and transportation of patients  
33 upon the streets and highways of Arkansas;

34 ~~(5) "Board" means the State Board of Health;~~

35 ~~(6) "Council" means the Emergency Medical Services Advisory~~  
36 ~~Council;~~



1           ~~(7)~~(5) “Emergency medical services” means:

2           (A) The transportation and medical care provided the ill  
3 or injured before arrival at a medical facility by a licensed emergency  
4 medical services personnel or other health care provider; ~~and~~

5           (B) Continuation of the initial emergency care within a  
6 medical facility subject to the approval of the medical staff and governing  
7 board of that facility; and

8           (C) Integrated medical care in emergency and nonurgent  
9 settings with the oversight of a physician;

10          ~~(8)~~(A)(6)(A) “Emergency medical services personnel” means an  
11 individual licensed by the department at any level established by the rules  
12 adopted by the ~~board~~ State Board of Health under this subchapter and  
13 authorized to perform those services set forth in the rules.

14          (B) These shall include without limitation EMT, Advanced  
15 EMT, Paramedic, EMS Instructor, or EMS Instructor Trainer;

16          ~~(9)~~(7) “Licensure” means official acknowledgment by the  
17 department that an individual has demonstrated competence to perform the  
18 emergency medical services required for licensure under the rules,  
19 regulations, and standards adopted by the board upon recommendation by the  
20 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council; and

21          ~~(10)~~(8) “Medical facility” means any hospital, medical clinic,  
22 physician’s office, nursing home, or other health care facility.

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24          SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 13, is amended to add an  
25 additional subchapter to read as follows:

26                   Subchapter 16 – Community Paramedics

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28                   20-13-1601. Definition.

29                   As used in this subchapter, "Community Paramedic" means an individual  
30 who:

31                   (1) Is licensed as a paramedic;

32                   (2) Meets the requirements for additional licensure as a  
33 community paramedic under this subchapter; and

34                   (3) Provides services to:

35                   (A) Discharged inpatients who:

36                   (i) Have been screened for home health or hospice;

1 and

2 (ii)(a) Do not qualify for home health or hospice  
3 services; or

4 (b) Are documented as having declined home  
5 health hospice services;

6 (B) Discharged emergency department patients; and

7 (C) Pre-hospital patients.

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9 20-13-1602. Community Paramedic – Licensure – Services.

10 (a) To be eligible for licensure by the Department of Health under the  
11 Section of Emergency Medical Services as a Community Paramedic, an individual  
12 shall:

13 (1)(A) Be currently licensed as a paramedic;

14 (B) Have two (2) years of full-time service as a  
15 paramedic; and

16 (C) Be actively employed by a licensed paramedic ambulance  
17 service; and

18 (2) Successfully complete a community paramedic training program  
19 from a training institute approved by the Department of Health under the  
20 Section of Emergency Medical Services.

21 (b) The training program for the Community Paramedic shall consist of  
22 a minimum of three hundred (300) hours of classroom and clinical education as  
23 follows:

24 (1) Clinical experience that is provided under the supervision  
25 of a community paramedic service medical director, advanced practice  
26 registered nurse, physician assistant, or home health nurse; and

27 (2) Areas of clinical experience including at a minimum:

28 (A) Emergency department services;

29 (B) Home health services;

30 (C) Hospital case management; and

31 (D) Public health agencies services.

32 (c) A community paramedic may provide services as directed by a  
33 patient care plan after the plan has been developed, approved, or both by the  
34 patient's physician in conjunction with the Community Paramedic service's  
35 medical director.

36 (d) An individual is an eligible patient for Community Paramedic

1 services if the individual has been identified by the individual's treating  
2 physician as an individual for whom Community Paramedic services would  
3 likely:

4 (1) Prevent admission to or allow discharge from a nursing  
5 facility; or

6 (2) Prevent readmission to a hospital or nursing home.

7 (e) Community Paramedic services are limited to:

8 (1) Coordination of community services;

9 (2) Chronic disease monitoring and education;

10 (3) Health assessment;

11 (4) Hospital discharge follow-up care;

12 (5) Laboratory specimen collection; and

13 (6) Medication compliance.

14 (f) For purposes of relicensure a Community Paramedic shall:

15 (1) Complete an additional fifteen (15) hours training beyond  
16 the relicensure requirements as a paramedic; and

17 (2) Be active in performing the skills of a Community Paramedic.

18  
19 20-13-1603 Rules.

20 (a) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council and the State  
21 Board of Health shall adopt rules to implement this subchapter;

22 (b) The rules shall consider quality assurance and adequate data  
23 collection to evaluate the utilization and effectiveness of the community  
24 paramedic program.

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26 /s/Baltz  
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