

SENATE No. 2648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

SENATE, August 2, 2018

The committee on Ways and Means to whom was referred the Senate Bill relative to volunteer ambulance service (Senate, No. 2446),-- reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2648).

For the committee,
Karen E. Spilka

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An Act relative to volunteer ambulance service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 111C of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 25, as
2 appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

3 Section 25. (a) When a class I, II or V ambulance transports a patient receiving care at the
4 paramedic level of advanced life support, the ambulance shall be staffed in accordance with
5 regulations promulgated by the department; provided, however, that there shall be not less than 2
6 emergency medical technicians, at least 1 of whom shall be certified at the EMT-Paramedic
7 level.

8 (b) When a class I, II or V ambulance transports a patient receiving care at the non-
9 paramedic level of basic life support, the ambulance shall be staffed in accordance with
10 regulations promulgated by the department; provided, however, that there shall be not less than 2
11 emergency medical technicians.

12 (c) (1) For the purposes of this subsection, the following words shall have the
13 following meanings:

14 “First responder”, a police officer, a firefighter or an emergency reserve of a volunteer
15 fire department or fire protection district who has been authorized and deemed qualified to staff
16 an ambulance by the rural volunteer ambulance service’s affiliate hospital medical director
17 pursuant to the rural volunteer ambulance service’s affiliation agreement and the department’s
18 regulations; provided, however, that “first responder” shall not include a police officer,
19 firefighter or person engaged in police and fire work whose duties are primarily clerical or
20 administrative.

21 “Rural volunteer ambulance service”, a not-for-profit primary ambulance service staffed
22 by volunteers operating in a service zone with a population density of less than 500 residents per
23 square mile as designated in a department-approved service zone plan.

24 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (b), when a class I, II or V ambulance operated by a rural
25 volunteer ambulance service transports a patient receiving care at the nonparamedic level of
26 basic life support, the ambulance may be staffed in accordance with regulations promulgated by
27 the department; provided, however, that there shall be at least 1 emergency medical technician
28 and 1 first responder.