

SENATE No. 1443

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam G. Hinds

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to volunteer ambulance service.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Adam G. Hinds

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden

SENATE No. 1443

By Mr. Hinds, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1443) of Adam G. Hinds for legislation relative to volunteer ambulance service. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1416 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

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 SECTION 1. Chapter 111C of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
2 section 25, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:-

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

9 (b) When a class I, II or V ambulance transports a patient receiving care at the non-
10 paramedic level of basic life support, the ambulance shall be staffed in accordance with

11 regulations promulgated by the department; provided, however, that there shall be not less than 2
12 emergency medical technicians.

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

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

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

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