

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1137

H. P. 941

House of Representatives, March 22, 1977

On motion of Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick, referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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AN ACT Relating to the Licensing of Air Ambulances.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA § 72, sub-§ 1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. **Air ambulance.** "Air ambulance" means any aircraft that is designed or constructed or used or intended to be used for the transportation of patients. The licensing of such aircraft is in addition to the registration by the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA § 72, sub-§ 4-A is enacted to read:

4-A. **Air ambulance service.** "Air ambulance service" means any organization or any person or persons who routinely provide air transportation for ill or injured persons.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA § 72, sub-§ 5, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4. is further amended to read:

5. **Board.** "Board" means the advisory board to the Department of Human Services for licensure of ambulance services and air ambulance services, vehicles, aircraft or ambulances, ambulance and air ambulance personnel.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA § 73, sub-§ 1, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4. is further amended to read:

1. **Advisory board.** There shall be an advisory board to the Department of Human Services for licensure of ambulance services and air ambulance services, vehicles, aircraft, vehicles and personnel, consisting of ~~10~~ 12 mem-

bers appointed by the Governor. Two members shall be physicians, one licensed to practice medicine and one licensed to practice osteopathy. One member shall be a hospital administrator. One member shall be a representative of a recognized state safety association; one a representative of rescue units; one a representative of municipalities operating ambulance and rescue units; ~~one a representative and 3 representatives~~ of the public. Three members, at least one of whom shall be from a rural area, shall be representatives of an accredited ambulance service with not less than 3 years of such active experience.

**Sec. 5.** 32 MRSA § 73, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 544, § 113, is amended to read:

2. **Terms.** The term of office of the members shall be 3 years, provided that of the members first appointed, ~~2 4~~ shall be appointed for terms of one year, ~~2 4~~ for terms of 2 years and ~~3 4~~ for terms of 3 years. A member shall not be appointed for more than 2 consecutive full terms. Each member of the board shall receive \$20 per day for the time spent in the performance of his official duties and shall be reimbursed for all appropriate travel and incidental expenses in carrying out his official duties.

**Sec. 6.** 32 MRSA § 73, sub-§ 5, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 417, § 1, is further amended to read:

5. **Duties.** The board shall advise the Commissioner of Human Services on: Standards and procedures for the licensing of the operation of ambulance services and air ambulance services, requirements for the training, experience and qualifications of ambulance and air ambulance personnel and procedures for the licensing of such personnel, standards and procedures for the licensing of ambulance vehicles and air ambulance aircraft, and standards and procedures for the issuance, revocation, refusal to renew and suspension of licenses and for the investigation of complaints filed with the Department of Human Services and establishment of licensure fees, except that no licensure fees shall be established for ambulance personnel. In advising on and setting ~~said~~ these standards, the board and commissioner shall, among other factors, take into consideration the various economic conditions existing in the diverse areas of the State of Maine and the fact that many ambulance services in rural areas rely wholly on volunteers to carry out their purposes.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently, aircraft which operate as ambulances are not regulated as ambulances. This bill would require air ambulance services to meet licensing standards as established administratively by the Department of Human Services. The bill also adds 2 members to the advisory board for the licensure of ambulance services and personnel.