

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 264

BY SENATOR CARTER

TELECOMMUNICATIONS. Requires public safety telecommunicators who provide dispatch for emergency medical conditions be trained in the delivery of telephone CPR. (8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1131(21) and 1131.1(D) and to enact R.S. 40:1131(22) and

3 (23), 1133.13(F) and (G), and 1133.16, relative to emergency personnel; to provide

4 for definitions; to provide relative to telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation; to

5 provide for minimum training requirements in telephone cardiopulmonary

6 resuscitation; to provide for certain terms, procedures, and conditions; and to provide

7 for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 40:1131(21) and 1131.1(D) are hereby amended and reenacted and

10 R.S. 40:1131(22) and (23), 1133.13(F) and (G) and 1133.16 are hereby enacted to read as

11 follows:

12 §1131. Definitions

13 For purposes of this Chapter:

14 * * *

15 (21) **"Public safety agency" means a functional division of a public or**

16 **private agency which provides firefighting, police, medical, or other emergency**

17 **services.**

1 resuscitation instruction the public safety telecommunicator has no obligation
2 to provide the instruction.

3 G. No public safety agency shall be liable for any civil damages for
4 employing individuals to answer 911 emergency calls who are not designated as
5 public safety telecommunicators. Individuals who are not public safety
6 telecommunicators, as defined in R.S. 40:1131(22), shall not be required to
7 complete the telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation training required by R.S.
8 40:1133.16 and shall have no obligation to offer and provide telephone
9 cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction to a caller.

10 * * *

11 §1133.16. Public safety telecommunicator; instruction

12 A. A public safety telecommunicator shall be trained in telephone
13 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (T-CPR) utilizing nationally recognized
14 emergency cardiovascular care guidelines adopted by the bureau every two
15 years. At a minimum, this training shall incorporate recognition protocols for
16 out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, compression-only CPR instructions for callers,
17 and continuing education as appropriate.

18 (1) On or before January 1, 2019, each public safety telecommunicator
19 in a parish with a population greater than one hundred thousand, according to
20 the latest federal decennial census, shall complete the T-CPR training required
21 by this Section.

22 (2) On or before January 1, 2020, each public safety telecommunicator
23 in a parish with a population between fifty thousand and one hundred thousand,
24 according to the latest federal decennial census, shall complete the T-CPR
25 training required by this Section.

26 (3) On or before January 1, 2021, each public safety telecommunicator
27 in a parish with a population less than fifty thousand, according to the latest
28 federal decennial census, shall complete the T-CPR training required by this
29 Section.

declined, the public safety communicator has no obligation to provide the instruction.

Proposed law provides that a public safety agency is not required to have public safety communicators answer their 911 calls.

Proposed law requires a public safety telecommunicator be trained in T-CPR utilizing nationally recognized emergency cardiovascular care guidelines adopted by the bureau every two years.

Proposed law provides that the training, at a minimum, shall incorporate recognition protocols for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, compression-only CPR instructions for callers, and continuing education as appropriate.

Proposed law requires public safety agencies to ensure that 911 calls being answered by public safety telecommunicators have T-CPR training based on the following timeline and population references based on the latest federal decennial census:

- (1) January 1, 2019 for parishes with a population of more than 100,000.
- (2) January 1, 2020 for parishes with a population between 50,000 and 100,000.
- (3) January 1, 2021 for parishes with a population less than 50,000.

Proposed law provides that a public safety agency may enter into a reciprocal agreement with another public safety agency to provide T-CPR, provided that the agency that accepts the call has a public safety telecommunicator who is trained in T-CPR as provided by proposed law.

Proposed law requires LDH, bureau of emergency medical services to identify all public and private agencies, institutions, and individuals that are or may be engaged in T-CPR training and establish minimum standards for course approval, instruction, and examination. Proposed law requires LDH to implement an efficient mechanism for the bureau to maintain the names of public safety communicators and receive certificates of completion for the training course required in proposed law.

Proposed law provides that the Dept. of Health shall adopt rules in accordance with the APA as necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 40:1131(21) and 1131.1(D); adds R.S. 40:1131(22) and (23), 1133.13(F) and (G), and 1133.16)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Adds definition for "public safety agency" and revises the definition for "public safety telecommunicator".
2. Clarifies that a caller may decline T-CPR and if so, the public safety telecommunicator has no obligation to provide the instruction.
3. Provides that each public safety agency adopt a protocol to identify certain individuals answering 911 emergency medical condition calls as public safety telecommunicators and gives timelines for securing T-CPR training.

4. Provides that public safety agencies are not liable for having non-public safety telecommunicators answer 911 emergency calls.
5. Provides implementation of public safety telecommunicator training requirements based on the latest federal decennial such that parishes with a population of more than 100,000 must comply by January 1, 2019; 50,000 - 100,000 by January 1, 2020; and below 50,000 by January 1, 2021.
6. Provides that LDH implements an efficient mechanism to record the identity of the public safety telecommunicators and record compliance with the T-CPR training.