

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Health Care to which was referred House Bill No. 742
3 entitled “An act relating to grants for emergency medical personnel training”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 **Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 906 is amended to read:**

8 **§ 906. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION;**

9 **RESPONSIBILITIES**

10 **To implement the policy of section 901 of this title, the Department of**
11 **Health shall be responsible for:**

12 *** * ***

13 **(6)(A) Training, or assisting in the training of, emergency medical**
14 **personnel, including using up to \$750,000.00 of the monies in the**
15 **Emergency Medical Services Fund established pursuant to section 908 of**
16 **this chapter or other monies appropriated to the Department for**
17 **emergency medical personnel training as follows:**

18 **(i) 50 percent shall be used for competitive grants to**
19 **emergency medical technician training programs based on documented**
20 **regional and multiagency support;**

1 ~~(ii) 25 percent shall be used to support the online, distance-~~
2 ~~learning emergency medical technician training opportunities developed~~
3 ~~by the Department pursuant to subsection 908(b) of this chapter and to~~
4 ~~support partnerships with regional ambulance services to provide~~
5 ~~practical education and skill development; and~~

6 ~~(iii) 25 percent shall be used to provide tuition reimbursement~~
7 ~~grants to newly licensed paramedics serving Vermont communities.~~

8 ~~(B) The Department shall adopt rules in accordance with 3~~
9 ~~V.S.A. chapter 25 to specify eligibility criteria for applicants to receive~~
10 ~~grants under subdivision (A) of this subdivision. The Department's rules~~
11 ~~shall include a requirement that recipient programs offer their training~~
12 ~~courses at no or low cost to participants who intend to provide volunteer~~
13 ~~services as a member of a local or regional first responder service.~~

14 * * *

15 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 908 is amended to read:

16 ~~§ 908. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SPECIAL FUND~~

17 ~~(a) The Emergency Medical Services Fund is established as a special~~
18 ~~fund pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5 comprising revenues~~
19 ~~received by the Department from the Fire Safety Special Fund, pursuant~~
20 ~~to 32 V.S.A. § 8557(a), that are designated for this Special Fund; and~~
21 ~~public and private sources, such as gifts, grants, and donations, together~~

1 ~~with additions and interest accruing to the Fund. The Commissioner of~~
2 ~~Health shall administer the Fund to the extent funds are available to~~
3 ~~support online and regional training programs, data collection and~~
4 ~~analysis, and other activities relating to the training of emergency medical~~
5 ~~personnel and delivery of emergency medical services and ambulance~~
6 ~~services in Vermont, as determined by the Commissioner, after consulting~~
7 ~~with the EMS Advisory Committee established under section 909 of this~~
8 ~~title. Any balance at the end of the fiscal year shall be carried forward in~~
9 ~~the Fund.~~

10 ~~(b) From the funds in the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund,~~
11 ~~the Commissioner of Health shall develop and implement by September 1,~~
12 ~~2012 online training opportunities and offer regional classes to enable~~
13 ~~individuals to comply with the requirements of subdivision 906(10)(C) of~~
14 ~~this title.~~

15 ~~Sec. 3. 32 V.S.A. § 8557 is amended to read:~~

16 ~~§ 8557. VERMONT FIRE SERVICE TRAINING COUNCIL~~

17 ~~(a)(1) Sums for the expenses of the operation of training facilities and~~
18 ~~curriculum of the Vermont Fire Service Training Council not to exceed~~
19 ~~\$1,200,000.00 \$1,950,000.00 per year shall be paid to the Fire Safety~~
20 ~~Special Fund created by 20 V.S.A. § 3157 by insurance companies, writing~~
21 ~~fire, homeowners multiple peril, allied lines, farm owners multiple peril,~~

1 ~~commercial multiple peril (fire and allied lines), private passenger and~~
2 ~~commercial auto, and inland marine policies on property and persons~~
3 ~~situated within the State of Vermont within 30 days after notice from the~~
4 ~~Commissioner of Financial Regulation of such estimated expenses.~~
5 ~~Captive companies shall be excluded from the effect of this section.~~

6 ~~(2) The Commissioner shall annually, on or before July 1, apportion~~
7 ~~such charges among all such companies and shall assess them for the~~
8 ~~charges on a fair and reasonable basis as a percentage of their gross direct~~
9 ~~written premiums on such insurance written during the second prior~~
10 ~~calendar year on property situated in the State. The Department of Taxes~~
11 ~~shall collect all assessments under this section.~~

12 ~~(3) An amount not less than \$100,000.00 shall be specifically~~
13 ~~allocated to the provision of what are now or formerly referred to as Level~~
14 ~~I, units I, II, and III (basic) courses for entry-level firefighters.~~

15 ~~(4) An amount not less than \$150,000.00 \$900,000.00 shall be~~
16 ~~specifically allocated to the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund~~
17 ~~established under 18 V.S.A. § 908 for the provision of training programs~~
18 ~~for emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical~~
19 ~~technicians, and paramedics.~~

20 ~~(5) The Department of Health shall present a plan to the Joint Fiscal~~
21 ~~Committee that shall review the plan prior to the release of any funds.~~

1 ~~(b) All administrative provisions of chapter 151 of this title, including~~
2 ~~those relating to the collection and enforcement of the income tax by the~~
3 ~~Commissioner, shall apply to this section.~~

4 ~~Sec. 4. EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL TRAINING;~~

5 ~~— APPROPRIATION~~

6 ~~The sum of \$750,000.00 is appropriated from the Fire Safety Special~~
7 ~~Fund to the Emergency Medical Services Fund in fiscal year 2021 for use~~
8 ~~by the Department of Health for emergency medical personnel training as~~
9 ~~follows:~~

10 ~~(1) \$375,000.00 shall be used for competitive grants for emergency~~
11 ~~medical technician training programs based on documented regional and~~
12 ~~multiagency support;~~

13 ~~(2) \$187,500.00 shall be used to support online, distance learning~~
14 ~~emergency medical technician training opportunities developed by the~~
15 ~~Department pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 908(b) and to support partnerships~~
16 ~~with regional ambulance services to provide practical education and skill~~
17 ~~development; and~~

18 ~~(3) \$187,500.00 shall be used to provide tuition reimbursement~~
19 ~~grants to newly licensed paramedics serving Vermont communities.~~

1 **Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE**

2 ~~This act shall take effect on passage, with the amendments to 32 V.S.A.~~
3 ~~§ 8557 in Sec. 3 of this act to be applied beginning with the charges to be~~
4 ~~apportioned and assessed by the Commissioner of Financial Regulation on~~
5 ~~or before July 1, 2020 in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 8557(a)(2).~~

6 Sec. 1. EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL TRAINING;

7 APPROPRIATION **(NEW)**

8 (a) The sum of \$450,000.00 is appropriated from the Emergency Medical
9 Services Fund to the Department of Health in fiscal year 2021 for purposes of
10 emergency medical personnel training. The Department, in consultation with
11 the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee, shall use the monies to
12 provide funding for live and online training opportunities for emergency
13 medical personnel and for other emergency medical personnel training-related
14 purposes.

15 (b) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Emergency Medical
16 Services Advisory Committee, shall develop a plan to ensure that training
17 opportunities for emergency medical personnel are available statewide on an
18 ongoing basis. On or before January 15, 2021, the Department shall provide
19 the plan to the House Committees on Health Care, on Appropriations, and on
20 Government Operations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare, on
21 Appropriations, and on Government Operations.

1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE **(NEW)**

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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9 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE