



EMS
Legislative review

House Healthcare 3/23/2021



2012 Act 155 (S. 106)

- Established an **EMS special fund** administered by DoH
 - For online training opportunities and regional classes to enable individuals to comply with the requirements of subdivision 906(9)(c) of this title.
- Established **EMS advisory committee (EMSAC)**
 - 14 members, chaired by DoH commissioner
 - Representing EMS, Firefighters, EDs, VLCT, local government
 - Beginning January 1, 2014 and for the ensuing two years, the committee shall report annually to the house commerce, human services, and to senate committees on economic development, housing and general affairs and health and welfare.

Act 155 funding mechanism

- Assessments on various forms of insurance that comprises revenue to the Fire Safety Fund of the Department of Health
- **\$150,000/year** is designated from the Fire Safety Fund for the Emergency Medical Services fund
- Intended to support training and other activities relating to delivery of emergency medical services. DoH is the administrator.

2019 Act 91 (H. 742)

- As passed and enacted: **An act relating to Vermont's response to COVID-19**
- As introduced: **An act relating to grants for emergency medical personnel training**
- Amended 742 passed House 3/13/2020
 - Senate amended
- **House (& Senate) passed 3/25/2020**

H. 742 (as introduced) testimony

- Vermont EMS responders answered more than 97,000 calls for service in 2019, and 79% of services reported not having adequate staff.
- Obstacles
 - cost of training and certification to individuals and districts
 - inconsistency in the fund application requirements
 - burdensome application process
 - lack of consistent leadership personnel in the form of the State Training Coordinator, an existing position
 - Distribution of this funding has not always been needs based, which has led to inequity in where the funds have been distributed around the state.
 - Distribution has not always occurred
 - Communication issues

H. 742 and Funding

- Emergency Medical Services fund established in Act 155 of 2012
 - ~\$375,000 of undistributed training funds in 2020
 - \$450,000 in Fire Safety Fund
 - Intent of H. 742 as introduced was to require distribution
- EMSAC legislative reports
 - 2013-2015, 2019, 2020 on legislative report page;
 - can't find 2016, 17, 18
- Required EMSAC to be involved in DoH planning and distribution of \$\$
- EMSAC recommended formal addition of local first responder

Act 100 (S. 182) 2020

- COVID-19 relating to emergency medical services, electrician and plumber licenses
 - Sheriff emergency funding
 - Emergency medical services
 - Secs. 1–3 eliminate the requirement for emergency medical personnel to be credentialed by their affiliated agency, extend affiliated agency license terms from one to three years, and require the Department of Financial Regulation to enforce the current law requirement for health insurers to directly reimburse ambulance services that provide emergency medical treatment
- House passed in 2020, enacted

2020 S. 243 and 2021 S. 42

- **An act relating to establishing the Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission**
 - 2020 S. 243 referred to HHC 5/2020, not taken up
 - 2021 S. 42 referred to HHC; walkthrough 3/25
 - Senators Campion and Sears

Departments: Public Safety

- Divisions
 - VSP
 - VEM
 - Fire Safety
 - Forensic Laboratory

DPS Divisions



BUILDING CODE AND SAFETY SERVICES

ADA Accessibility; Codes and Standards; Municipal Inspection Agreements; Permits and Forms; Resources and Publications



TRADES LICENSING AND CERTIFICATIONS

Boiler; Electrical; Elevator; Gas; Oil; Plumbing; TQP - Fire Alarm, Sprinkler Installer, Sprinkler Designer, Chemical Suppression, Chimney Sweep, Generator



FIRE SERVICE PROGRAMS

Fire Incident Reporting, Local Live Fire Training, Disaster-Related Building Condemnation



VERMONT FIRE ACADEMY

Firefighter Training and Certification; Upcoming Courses; Online Fire Service Training; Candidate Physical Ability Testing



STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE GROUPS

Fire Investigation; Hazardous Materials Response Team; Tier II (Community-Right-to-Know); Urban Search and Rescue



PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Fire Safety Public Education, Lessons, Programs, Guides, Equipment, Handouts

Departments: Public Safety

- Functions
 - Building code and safety services
 - Trades licensing and certifications
 - Fire service programs
 - Vermont Fire Academy
 - State Emergency Response Groups
 - Fire investigation, hazmat response, urban search/rescue
 - Public Education and Information

Departments: Public Health/EMS

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Vermont's Emergency Services system – or EMS – responds to medical emergencies every day. EMS is an industry system for providing emergency medical treatment and transportation of sick and injured patients. The Vermont

Emergency Medical Services works on behalf of Vermonters to ensure that the EMS system is adequately equipped and prepared to provide the best out-of-hospital emergency care possible. There are nearly 100 ambulance and first responder agencies in the state, and most of our nearly 3,000 licensed EMS personnel are volunteers.

First Responder Wellness

Whether you want to become a more resilient responder, help yourself or a loved one, or reduce the stigma around mental health in your community, we have resources for you.

[READ MORE](#) 

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FOR CHILDREN**