STATE OF CONNECTICUT

House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 526

January Session, 2025

Substitute House Bill No. 7201

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A SUPPLEMENTAL PARAMEDIC.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2025) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Ambulance service", "emergency medical service organization",
- 3 "paramedic intercept service" and "patient" have the same meanings as
- 4 provided in section 19a-175 of the general statutes;
- 5 (2) "Emergency medical services personnel" has the same meaning as
- 6 provided in section 19a-180b of the general statutes;
- 7 (3) "Paramedic" means an individual licensed pursuant to chapter
- 8 384d of the general statutes as a paramedic;
- 9 (4) "Paramedic service" means treatment provided to a patient by a 10 paramedic acting within the scope of such paramedic's practice;
- 11 (5) "Supplemental paramedic" means an emergency medical service 12 organization that (A) holds a certificate of authorization by the

13 Commissioner of Public Health, (B) responds to a victim of sudden

- 14 illness or injury when available and when called upon, and (C) may
- 15 transport a patient, provide paramedic service or operate an ambulance
- 16 service or paramedic intercept service; and

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- 17 (6) "UConn emergency medical service organization" means the 18 emergency medical service organization operated by the fire 19 department of The University of Connecticut on the university's campus 20 in Storrs.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 19a-180 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Public Health may issue a certificate of authorization for a supplemental paramedic to the UConn emergency medical service organization. A certificate of authorization shall be issued to the UConn emergency medical service organization upon such organization showing proof satisfactory to the commissioner that such organization (1) meets the minimum standards of the commissioner in the areas of training, equipment and emergency medical services personnel, and (2) maintains liability insurance in an amount not less than one million dollars. The application for such certificate of authorization shall be made in a form and manner the commissioner. Upon prescribed by the commissioner's determination that the applicant is qualified as a supplemental paramedic, the commissioner shall issue to such applicant a certificate of authorization that shall be effective for two years. Such certificate of authorization may be renewable biennially. If the commissioner determines that the applicant for such license is not so qualified, the commissioner shall provide such applicant with written notice of the denial of the application with a statement of the reasons for such denial. Not later than thirty days after receipt of such notice, the applicant may request a hearing concerning the denial of the application. Any hearing conducted pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes. If the commissioner's denial of a certificate of authorization is sustained after such hearing, the applicant may make new application not less than one year after the date on which such denial was sustained.

(c) The commissioner may suspend or revoke the holder's certificate of authorization for a supplemental paramedic if the holder does not maintain the minimum standards of the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section and liability insurance pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section or violates any provision of chapter 368d of the general statutes. The holder shall have an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements for the retention of such certificate of authorization.

- Sec. 2. Section 19a-180c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- (a) For the purposes of this section, "primary service area responder" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-175, [and] "supplemental first responder" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-180b and "supplemental paramedic" has the same meaning as provided in section 1 of this act.
- (b) If <u>any combination of</u> a primary service area responder, a <u>member of a supplemental paramedic</u> and a supplemental first responder are [both] on the scene of an emergency medical call <u>at the same time</u>, the primary service area responder shall control and direct emergency activities at such scene. <u>If a member of a supplemental paramedic and a supplemental first responder are both on the scene of an emergency medical call at the same time, the supplemental paramedic shall control and direct emergency activities at such scene.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	19a-180c

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b), "shall be renewable" was changed to "may be renewable" for accuracy; in Section 1(c), the first sentence was redrafted for accuracy and clarity; and Section 2(b) was redrafted for accuracy and clarity.

PS Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which makes procedural changes allowing the University of Connecticut's emergency medical services organization to apply for a supplemental paramedic certificate of authorization, results in no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis HB 7201

AN ACT CONCERNING A SUPPLEMENTAL PARAMEDIC.

SUMMARY

This bill allows UConn's emergency medical services (EMS) organization (i.e. the Storrs campus fire department) to apply to the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner for a certificate of authorization as a supplemental paramedic in a similar way as existing law allows for supplemental first responders (see BACKGROUND).

The bill defines "supplemental paramedic" as an EMS organization that holds a certificate of authorization from DPH and responds to the victim of a sudden illness or injury when available and called upon.

This certificate will allow UConn Fire Department paramedics to respond to emergency calls covered by another primary service area responder (PSAR). By law, a PSAR is a specific geographic area to which DPH assigns a designated EMS provider for each category of emergency medical response services (CGS § 19a-175). (Currently, UConn Fire Department is not the PSAR for paramedic services on the Storrs campus.)

The bill also specifies which first responders control and direct emergency activities while at the scene of an emergency medical call. Specifically, if any combination of a PSAR, supplemental paramedic, and supplemental first responder is at the scene at the same time, the PSAR must control and direct emergency activities. If a PSAR is not present, the supplemental paramedic must do so.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL PARAMEDIC APPLICATION

Under the bill, UConn's EMS organization may apply to the DPH commissioner for a supplemental paramedic certificate as she prescribes, regardless of existing law's licensure requirements for ambulance and paramedic intercept services. The EMS organization must prove to the commissioner's satisfaction that it (1) meets the minimum standards for training, equipment, and personnel, and (2) has at least \$1 million in liability insurance.

Application Determinations

If the commissioner determines that UConn's EMS organization is qualified to be a supplemental paramedic, she must issue it a certificate that is valid for two years and may be renewed.

If the commissioner denies the application, she must notify the EMS organization in writing and include the reasons for the denial.

After receiving the notice, the EMS organization has 30 days to request a hearing in keeping with UAPA. If the commissioner's denial is upheld, the EMS organization cannot apply again for one year from the date the decision was upheld.

Certificate Revocation and Suspension

The bill allows the DPH commissioner to suspend or revoke UConn's certificate if its EMS organization (1) fails to maintain the minimum standards and liability insurance requirements described above or (2) violates the state's existing EMS laws. The bill requires DPH to give the EMS organization an opportunity to show its compliance with these requirements to keep its certificate.

BACKGROUND

Supplemental First Responders

Existing law allows any EMS organization to apply to the DPH commissioner for a certificate of authorization as a supplemental first responder in a municipality with a population of between 105,000 and 115,000 residents. The application process and related disciplinary actions are the same as those under the bill (CGS § 19a-180b).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 3 (03/18/2025)