

House Engrossed

ground ambulances; registration

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HOUSE BILL 2787

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 36-2212, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 36-2212, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 36-2212. Certificate of registration to operate an ambulance;
5 termination on change in ownership; fees;
6 exemption

7 A. A person shall not operate an ambulance in this state unless the
8 ambulance has a certificate of registration and complies with this article
9 and the rules, standards and criteria adopted pursuant to this article.

10 B. A person may obtain a certificate of registration to operate an
11 ambulance by submitting an application on a form prescribed by the
12 director and by demonstrating to the director's satisfaction that the
13 applicant is in compliance with this article and all rules, standards and
14 criteria adopted by the director for the operation of an ambulance.

15 C. A certificate of registration issued under this section
16 terminates ~~upon~~ ON any change of ownership or control of the
17 ambulance. Following any change of ownership, the new owner of an
18 ambulance shall apply for and receive a new certificate of registration
19 from the director before the ambulance may again be operated in this
20 state. This subsection does not apply if an ambulance service borrows,
21 leases, rents or otherwise obtains a registered ambulance from another
22 ambulance service to temporarily replace an inoperable ambulance.

23 D. The department shall issue a certificate of registration to a
24 person ~~who~~ THAT complies with the requirements of this article and ~~who~~
25 THAT pays an initial registration fee. A certificate of registration is
26 valid for one year. ~~However,~~ BUT an ambulance service may request that
27 the department issue an initial certificate of registration that expires
28 before the end of one year in order for the department to conduct an
29 annual inspection of all of the ambulance service's ambulances at one
30 time. A person may renew a certificate of registration by complying with
31 the requirements of this article and by paying a renewal fee prescribed by
32 the director. The fee for initial registration and registration renewal
33 shall not exceed ~~fifty dollars~~ \$50 for each ambulance. The department
34 shall base these fees on an amount that approximates the per vehicle costs
35 incurred by the department to administer this chapter. The director shall
36 deposit, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, fees collected under this
37 subsection in the state general fund. The department shall not charge a
38 registration fee for an ambulance to an ambulance service that operates an
39 ambulance or ambulances only as a volunteer not-for-profit service.

40 E. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH A CERTIFICATE OF
41 REGISTRATION IS VALID PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION, IF THE
42 DEPARTMENT FAILS TO SCHEDULE OR PERFORM AN INSPECTION OF AN AMBULANCE
43 WITHIN THE TIME FRAME PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 36-2232, SUBSECTION A,
44 PARAGRAPH 13, AN AMBULANCE'S REGISTRATION REMAINS VALID AND IN EFFECT
45 UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT COMPLETES THE REQUIRED INSPECTION AND THE CERTIFICATE

1 OF REGISTRATION HOLDER COMPLIES WITH THE RENEWAL PROCESS REQUIRED BY
2 SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION.

3 F. THE DEPARTMENT'S FAILURE TO ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
4 OR A RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION WITHIN THE TIME FRAMES
5 ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT BY RULE DOES NOT INVALIDATE OR DELAY THE
6 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

7 Sec. 2. Legislative findings; intent

8 A. The legislature finds that:

9 1. On March 11, 2020, Governor Doug Ducey issued Executive Order
10 2020-07, entitled "Proactive Measure to Protect Against COVID-19," in an
11 attempt to limit the exposure and spread of the COVID-19 virus and to ease
12 access to essential care and services. In June 2020, Cara Christ, the
13 then-director of the department of health services, issued Administrative
14 Order 2020-04, pursuant to which, among other things, the department of
15 health services waived or postponed various license and registration
16 renewal requirements for regulated entities. Administrative Order
17 2020-04, by its terms, remained in effect until Governor Ducey's March 11,
18 2020 Executive Order was terminated.

19 2. The department of health services recently implemented changes
20 in software, programs and processes to notify licensees of, among other
21 things, the need to schedule inspections and renewals for ambulance
22 registrations.

23 3. As a result of the suspension of registrations pursuant to
24 Administrative Order 2020-04 and the change in processes, systems and
25 notifications, the registrations of a number of ambulances have lapsed for
26 some period of time through no intentional failure or lapse by the
27 certificate of registration holders.

28 4. The failure to maintain ambulance registrations may result in
29 the forfeiture of state and federal monies otherwise due and payable to
30 the certificate of registration holders for ambulance transportation
31 services provided to the residents of this state.

32 B. This legislature intends to avoid such a forfeiture by allowing
33 certificate of registration holders to submit registration renewals for
34 ambulances that were otherwise operating in compliance with applicable law
35 but whose registration inadvertently lapsed.

36 Sec. 3. Retroactivity

37 Section 36-2212, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act,
38 applies retroactively to from and after March 31, 2021.

39 (EMERGENCY NOT ENACTED)

40 Sec. 4. Emergency

41 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the
42 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by
43 law.