

1 **H. B. 4494**

2
3 (By Delegate Ferns)

4 [Introduced February 13, 2014; referred to the
5 Committee on Health and Human Resources then the
6 Judiciary.]

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10 A BILL to amend and reenact §22A-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia,
11 1931, as amended, relating to Emergency Medical Technicians -
12 Mining; providing for the initial training course for
13 certification as an Emergency Medical Technician - Mining to
14 be offered quarterly; providing that childbirth and pediatrics
15 may be excluded from the Emergency Medical Technician - Mining
16 curriculum; authorizing an Emergency Medical Technician -
17 Mining to administer certain medications; and rules.

18 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

19 That §22A-10-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
20 be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

21 **ARTICLE 10. EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL.**

22 **§22A-10-1. Emergency personnel in coal mines.**

23 (a) Emergency medical services personnel must be employed on

1 each shift at every mine that:

2 (1) Employs more than ten employees; and

3 (2) Has more than eight persons present on the shift.

4 The emergency medical services personnel must be employed at
5 their regular duties at a central location or, when more than one
6 person is required pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of
7 this section, at a location which provides for convenient, quick
8 response to emergency. The emergency medical services personnel
9 must have available to them at all times such equipment prescribed
10 by the Director of the Office of Miners' Health, Safety and
11 Training, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Bureau of
12 Public Health.

13 (b) After July 1, 2000, emergency medical services personnel
14 means any person certified by the Commissioner of the Bureau of
15 Public Health or authorities recognized and approved by the
16 commissioner to provide emergency medical services as authorized in
17 article four-c, chapter sixteen of this code and including
18 emergency medical technician-mining. At least one emergency
19 medical services personnel shall be employed at a mine for every
20 fifty employees or any part thereof who are engaged at any time, in
21 the extraction, production or preparation of coal.

22 (c) A training course designed specifically for certification
23 of emergency medical technician-mining, shall be developed at the
24 earliest practicable time by the Commissioner of the Bureau of

1 Public Health in consultation with the Board of Miner Training,
2 Education and Certification. The training course for initial
3 certification as an emergency medical technician-mining shall not
4 be less than sixty hours, which shall include, but is not limited
5 to, basic life support skills and emergency room observation or
6 other equivalent practical exposure to emergencies as prescribed by
7 the Commissioner of the Bureau of Public Health, and may exclude
8 pediatrics and childbirth from the curriculum. The training course
9 for initial certification as an emergency medical technician-mining
10 shall be offered four times per year, which shall include one
11 training course each quarter. Emergency medical technicians-mining
12 are authorized to administer the following medications:

- 13 (1) Auto injector epinephrine for severe allergic reaction;
14 (2) Eighty-one milligram baby aspirins for chest pain;
15 (3) Oral glucose for low blood sugar; and
16 (4) Nitroglycerin for chest pain.

17 (d) The maintenance of a valid emergency medical technician-
18 mining certificate may be accomplished without taking a three-year
19 recertification examination: *Provided*, That the emergency medical
20 technician-mining personnel completes an eight-hour annual
21 retraining and testing program prescribed by the Commissioner of
22 the Bureau of Public Health in consultation with the Board of Miner
23 Training, Education and Certification.

24 (e) Upon submission to the Emergency Services Advisory Council

1 for review as set forth in section six, article four-c, chapter
2 sixteen of this code, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Public
3 Health shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance
4 with the provisions of article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this
5 code to implement the provisions of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that the initial training course for certification as an Emergency Medical Technician - Mining is to be offered quarterly and that childbirth and pediatrics may be excluded from the curriculum. The bill also authorizes an EMT-M to administer certain medications and the Commissioner of the Bureau of Public Health to propose rules for legislative approval.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.