

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H2/20/25 H3/10/25

2 95th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1285

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5 By: Representative L. Johnson

6 By: Senator J. Boyd

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR

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AMBULANCE SERVICE'S OPERATORS FOR CERTAIN HEALTHCARE

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SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO ESTABLISH AN EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR

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AMBULANCE SERVICE'S OPERATORS FOR

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CERTAIN HEALTHCARE SERVICES.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-13-108(b), concerning the triage, treat, and transport to alternative destination by an ambulance service operator, is amended to read as follows:

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(b) ~~An~~ Except as provided under subsection (c) of this section, an ambulance service's operators may triage and transport a patient to an alternative destination in this state or treat in place if the ambulance service is coordinating the care of the patient through telemedicine with a physician for a medical-based complaint or with a behavioral health specialist for a behavioral-based complaint.

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SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-13-108, concerning the triage, treat, and transport to alternative destination by ambulance service operators, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

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(c)(1) The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall develop a set of protocols for 9-1-1 emergency medical situations that are exempt from the telemedicine requirement under subsection (b) of this section by rule.

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(2) An ambulance service may:

(A) Adopt one (1) or more of the protocols developed under subdivision (c)(1) of this section with the approval of the medical director of the ambulance service; and

(B) Request that the council approve additional protocols for 9-1-1 emergency medical situations to be exempt from the telemedicine requirement under subsection (b) of this section.

(3) The council shall review annually all protocols exempted from the telemedicine requirement developed under subdivision (c)(1) of this section.

/s/L. Johnson

APPROVED: 4/17/25