

**ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB515**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday February 26, 2009  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Flood  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to emergency medical responders

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 7 Senators Campbell, Gay, Gloor, Howard, Stuthman, Wallman, Pankonin  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Proponents:**

Speaker Flood  
Tom Hamernik  
Bruce Beins  
  
Jerry Stilmock  
Kendell Brichacek

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association  
State Board of Emergency Medical Services, Nebraska  
EMS Association  
Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association  
Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association

**Opponents:**

Joann Schaefer

**Representing:**

Department of Health and Human Services

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 515 is a re-introduction of LB 730 (2008). The bill amends provisions of the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act (sections 38-1201 to 38-1237). The bill creates new classifications for out-of-hospital emergency care providers and changes provisions relating to the licensing and training of such providers.

Current provider classifications include: (1) first responders, (2) emergency medical technician-intermediate, and (3) emergency medical technician-paramedic. LB 515 creates the following new classifications: (1) emergency medical responder, (2) advanced emergency medical technician, and (3) paramedic.

LB 515 changes provisions relating to the training of out-of-hospital emergency care providers. The bill requires the Board of Emergency Medical Services (board) to annually review and adopt an approved curriculum for such providers, and deletes provisions incorporating United States Department of Transportation curricula by reference.

The bill requires the board to establish a "skills competency test" for the licensure of emergency medical responders and emergency medical technicians. The test is defined as "a hands-on or oral test of the abilities to perform skills and develop a treatment plan within the practices and procedures for the classification being tested for an individual seeking licensure as an emergency medical responder or emergency medical technician."

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment (AM 498) replaces the bill as introduced and makes the following changes:

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1. Creates the following new classifications for out-of-hospital emergency care providers as of September 1, 2010: (a) emergency medical responder, (b) advanced emergency medical technician, and (c) paramedic. Replaces the current classifications of (a) first responders, (b) emergency medical technician-intermediate, and (c) emergency medical technician-paramedic.

2. Provides for issuance of a temporary license for an out-of-hospital emergency care provider who has completed the educational requirements for one of the above-listed licensure classifications but has not yet completed the testing requirements for licensure.

3. Adopts the United States Department of Transportation National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards and the National Emergency Medical Services Scope of Practice for out-of-hospital licensure classifications until modified by the board in rule or regulation. The board is permitted to approve curricula for such licensure classifications.

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Tim Gay, Chairperson