



January 22, 2020

SENATE BILL No. 8

DIGEST OF SB 8 (Updated January 21, 2020 11:17 am - DI 133)

Citations Affected: IC 16-31; IC 36-8.

Synopsis: 911 dispatchers. Provides that an emergency medical dispatcher who has successfully completed certain training shall be considered an emergency responder.

Effective: July 1, 2020.

Bohacek, Ford J.D., Zay

January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation.
January 21, 2020, reported favorably — Do Pass.

SB 8—LS 6077/DI 131



January 22, 2020

Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 8

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning public safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 16-31-3.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.77-2012,
2 SECTION 43, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. **(a)** A person may not furnish, operate, conduct,
4 maintain, or advertise services as an emergency medical dispatcher or
5 otherwise be engaged as an emergency medical dispatch agency unless
6 the person performing the emergency medical dispatch has completed
7 training that meets or exceeds the standards established by the National
8 Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the Emergency Medical
9 Dispatch Program Implementation and Administration Managers
10 Guide, as in effect July 1, 2012.

11 **(b) An emergency medical dispatcher who has successfully**
12 **completed training under subsection (a) shall be considered an**
13 **emergency responder as defined by IC 36-8-2.5-1(6).**

14 SECTION 2. IC 36-8-2.5-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.137-2017,
15 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this
17 chapter:

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- 1 (1) "Critical incident" means an actual or perceived event or
2 situation that involves crisis, disaster, trauma, or emergency.
- 3 (2) "Critical incident stress" means the acute or cumulative
4 psychological stress or trauma that an emergency responder may
5 experience in providing emergency services in response to a
6 critical incident. The stress or trauma is an unusually strong
7 emotional, cognitive, behavioral, or physical reaction that may
8 interfere with normal functioning by causing:
- 9 (A) physical and emotional injury or illness;
10 (B) failure of a usual coping mechanism;
11 (C) loss of interest in work or normal life activities;
12 (D) loss of ability to function; or
13 (E) psychological disruption of personal life, including the
14 emergency responder's relationship with a spouse, child,
15 relative, or friend.
- 16 (3) "Critical incident stress management services" or "CISM
17 services" include programs and services related to education,
18 prevention, and mitigation of the effects from exposure to highly
19 stressful critical incidents. The term includes services provided by
20 an individual certified to provide group crisis intervention,
21 individual crisis intervention, peer support, or any related service.
- 22 (4) "Critical incident stress management services provider" or
23 "CISM services provider" means an individual who is certified to
24 provide CISM services and who is acting as part of a CISM team
25 or in another official capacity.
- 26 (5) "Critical incident stress management team" or "CISM team"
27 means an organized community or local crisis response team that
28 is trained and certified under standards substantially similar to the
29 training and certification standards established by the Indiana
30 emergency medical services commission as set forth under
31 IC 16-31-2.
- 32 (6) "Emergency responder" means an individual who provides
33 emergency response services, including:
- 34 (A) a law enforcement officer;
35 (B) a corrections officer;
36 (C) a firefighter;
37 (D) an emergency medical services provider;
38 (E) a dispatcher;
39 (F) an emergency response communication employee;
40 (G) emergency management personnel; or
41 (H) a rescue service provider.
- 42 **The term includes an emergency medical dispatcher who has**



1 **successfully completed training under IC 16-31-3.5-3(a).**



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 8, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 08 as introduced.)

CRIDER, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0

