

14103162D

SENATE BILL NO. 624

Senate Amendments in [] — February 3, 2014

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 8.01-225 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency care; school board employees.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Newman

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 8.01-225 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 8.01-225. Persons rendering emergency care, obstetrical services exempt from liability.**

A. Any person who:

1. In good faith, renders emergency care or assistance, without compensation, to any ill or injured person (i) at the scene of an accident, fire, or any life-threatening emergency; (ii) at a location for screening or stabilization of an emergency medical condition arising from an accident, fire, or any life-threatening emergency; or (iii) en route to any hospital, medical clinic, or doctor's office, shall not be liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such care or assistance.

2. In the absence of gross negligence, renders emergency obstetrical care or assistance to a female in active labor who has not previously been cared for in connection with the pregnancy by such person or by another professionally associated with such person and whose medical records are not reasonably available to such person shall not be liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such emergency care or assistance. The immunity herein granted shall apply only to the emergency medical care provided.

3. In good faith and without compensation, including any emergency medical services technician certified by the Board of Health, administers epinephrine in an emergency to an individual shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such treatment if such person has reason to believe that the individual receiving the injection is suffering or is about to suffer a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

4. Provides assistance upon request of any police agency, fire department, rescue or emergency squad, or governmental agency in the event of an accident or other emergency involving the use, handling, transportation, transmission, or storage of liquefied petroleum gas, liquefied natural gas, hazardous material, or hazardous waste as defined in § 10.1-1400 or regulations of the Virginia Waste Management Board shall not be liable for any civil damages resulting from any act of commission or omission on his part in the course of his rendering such assistance in good faith.

5. Is an emergency medical care attendant or technician possessing a valid certificate issued by authority of the State Board of Health who in good faith renders emergency care or assistance, whether in person or by telephone or other means of communication, without compensation, to any injured or ill person, whether at the scene of an accident, fire, or any other place, or while transporting such injured or ill person to, from, or between any hospital, medical facility, medical clinic, doctor's office, or other similar or related medical facility, shall not be liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such emergency care, treatment, or assistance, including but in no way limited to acts or omissions which involve violations of State Department of Health regulations or any other state regulations in the rendering of such emergency care or assistance.

6. In good faith and without compensation, renders or administers emergency cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); cardiac defibrillation, including, but not limited to, the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED); or other emergency life-sustaining or resuscitative treatments or procedures which have been approved by the State Board of Health to any sick or injured person, whether at the scene of a fire, an accident, or any other place, or while transporting such person to or from any hospital, clinic, doctor's office, or other medical facility, shall be deemed qualified to administer such emergency treatments and procedures and shall not be liable for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such emergency resuscitative treatments or procedures.

7. Operates an AED at the scene of an emergency, trains individuals to be operators of AEDs, or orders AEDs, shall be immune from civil liability for any personal injury that results from any act or omission in the use of an AED in an emergency where the person performing the defibrillation acts as an ordinary, reasonably prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances, unless such personal injury results from gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct of the person rendering such emergency care.

ENGROSSED

SB624E

60 8. Maintains an AED located on real property owned or controlled by such person shall be immune
61 from civil liability for any personal injury that results from any act or omission in the use in an
62 emergency of an AED located on such property unless such personal injury results from gross
63 negligence or willful or wanton misconduct of the person who maintains the AED or his agent or
64 employee.

65 9. *Is an employee of a school board [or of a local health department approved by the local*
66 *governing body to provide health services pursuant to § 22.1-274] who, while on school property or at*
67 *a school-sponsored event, (i) renders emergency care or assistance to any sick or injured person; (ii)*
68 *renders or administers emergency cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); cardiac defibrillation,*
69 *including, but not limited to, the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED); or other emergency*
70 *life-sustaining or resuscitative treatments or procedures that have been approved by the State Board of*
71 *Health to any sick or injured person; (iii) operates an AED, trains individuals to be operators of AEDs,*
72 *or orders AEDs; or (iv) maintains an AED, shall not be liable for civil damages for ordinary negligence*
73 *[~~resulting from~~ in acts or omissions on the part of such employee while engaged in] the acts described*
74 *in this subdivision.*

75 9. 10. Is a volunteer in good standing and certified to render emergency care by the National Ski
76 Patrol System, Inc., who, in good faith and without compensation, renders emergency care or assistance
77 to any injured or ill person, whether at the scene of a ski resort rescue, outdoor emergency rescue, or
78 any other place or while transporting such injured or ill person to a place accessible for transfer to any
79 available emergency medical system unit, or any resort owner voluntarily providing a ski patroller
80 employed by him to engage in rescue or recovery work at a resort not owned or operated by him, shall
81 not be liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such emergency
82 care, treatment, or assistance, including but not limited to acts or omissions which involve violations of
83 any state regulation or any standard of the National Ski Patrol System, Inc., in the rendering of such
84 emergency care or assistance, unless such act or omission was the result of gross negligence or willful
85 misconduct.

86 ~~10.~~ 11. Is an employee of a school board, authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration
87 of insulin and glucagon, who, upon the written request of the parents as defined in § 22.1-1, assists with
88 the administration of insulin or administers glucagon to a student diagnosed as having diabetes who
89 requires insulin injections during the school day or for whom glucagon has been prescribed for the
90 emergency treatment of hypoglycemia shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence
91 in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such treatment if the insulin is administered
92 according to the child's medication schedule or such employee has reason to believe that the individual
93 receiving the glucagon is suffering or is about to suffer life-threatening hypoglycemia. Whenever any
94 employee of a school board is covered by the immunity granted herein, the school board employing him
95 shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the
96 rendering of such insulin or glucagon treatment.

97 ~~11.~~ 12. Is a school nurse, an employee of a school board, an employee of a local governing body, or
98 an employee of a local health department who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the
99 administration of epinephrine and who provides, administers, or assists in the administration of
100 epinephrine to a student believed in good faith to be having an anaphylactic reaction, or is the prescriber
101 of the epinephrine, shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions
102 resulting from the rendering of such treatment.

103 ~~12.~~ 13. Is an employee of a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and
104 Developmental Services, or provides services pursuant to a contract with a provider licensed by the
105 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, who has been trained in the
106 administration of insulin and glucagon and who administers or assists with the administration of insulin
107 or administers glucagon to a person diagnosed as having diabetes who requires insulin injections or for
108 whom glucagon has been prescribed for the emergency treatment of hypoglycemia in accordance with
109 § 54.1-3408 shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions
110 resulting from the rendering of such treatment if the insulin is administered in accordance with the
111 prescriber's instructions or such person has reason to believe that the individual receiving the glucagon is
112 suffering or is about to suffer life-threatening hypoglycemia. Whenever any employee of a provider
113 licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or a person who provides
114 services pursuant to a contract with a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and
115 Developmental Services is covered by the immunity granted herein, the provider shall not be liable for
116 any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such
117 insulin or glucagon treatment.

118 ~~13.~~ 14. Is an employee of a provider licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and
119 Developmental Services, or provides services pursuant to a contract with a provider licensed by the
120 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, who has been trained in the
121 administration of epinephrine and who administers or assists in the administration of epinephrine to a

122 person believed in good faith to be having an anaphylactic reaction in accordance with the prescriber's
123 instructions shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions
124 resulting from the rendering of such treatment.

125 14. 15. In good faith and without compensation, administers naloxone in an emergency to an
126 individual who is experiencing or is about to experience a life-threatening opiate overdose shall not be
127 liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of
128 such treatment if such administering person is a participant in a pilot program conducted by the
129 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services on the administration of naloxone for the
130 purpose of counteracting the effects of opiate overdose.

131 B. Any licensed physician serving without compensation as the operational medical director for a
132 licensed emergency medical services agency in the Commonwealth shall not be liable for any civil
133 damages for any act or omission resulting from the rendering of emergency medical services in good
134 faith by the personnel of such licensed agency unless such act or omission was the result of such
135 physician's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

136 Any person serving without compensation as a dispatcher for any licensed public or nonprofit
137 emergency services agency in the Commonwealth shall not be liable for any civil damages for any act
138 or omission resulting from the rendering of emergency services in good faith by the personnel of such
139 licensed agency unless such act or omission was the result of such dispatcher's gross negligence or
140 willful misconduct.

141 Any individual, certified by the State Office of Emergency Medical Services as an emergency
142 medical services instructor and pursuant to a written agreement with such office, who, in good faith and
143 in the performance of his duties, provides instruction to persons for certification or recertification as a
144 certified basic life support or advanced life support emergency medical services technician shall not be
145 liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions on his part directly relating to his activities on behalf
146 of such office unless such act or omission was the result of such emergency medical services instructor's
147 gross negligence or willful misconduct.

148 Any licensed physician serving without compensation as a medical advisor to an E-911 system in the
149 Commonwealth shall not be liable for any civil damages for any act or omission resulting from
150 rendering medical advice in good faith to establish protocols to be used by the personnel of the E-911
151 service, as defined in § 58.1-1730, when answering emergency calls unless such act or omission was the
152 result of such physician's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

153 Any licensed physician who directs the provision of emergency medical services, as authorized by
154 the State Board of Health, through a communications device shall not be liable for any civil damages
155 for any act or omission resulting from the rendering of such emergency medical services unless such act
156 or omission was the result of such physician's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

157 Any licensed physician serving without compensation as a supervisor of an AED in the
158 Commonwealth shall not be liable for any civil damages for any act or omission resulting from
159 rendering medical advice in good faith to the owner of the AED relating to personnel training, local
160 emergency medical services coordination, protocol approval, AED deployment strategies, and equipment
161 maintenance plans and records unless such act or omission was the result of such physician's gross
162 negligence or willful misconduct.

163 C. Any communications services provider, as defined in § 58.1-647, including mobile service, and
164 any provider of Voice-over-Internet Protocol service, in the Commonwealth shall not be liable for any
165 civil damages for any act or omission resulting from rendering such service with or without charge
166 related to emergency calls unless such act or omission was the result of such service provider's gross
167 negligence or willful misconduct.

168 Any volunteer engaging in rescue or recovery work at a mine, or any mine operator voluntarily
169 providing personnel to engage in rescue or recovery work at a mine not owned or operated by such
170 operator, shall not be liable for civil damages for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such
171 rescue or recovery work in good faith unless such act or omission was the result of gross negligence or
172 willful misconduct. For purposes of this subsection, the term "Voice-over-Internet Protocol service" or
173 "VoIP service" means any Internet protocol-enabled services utilizing a broadband connection, actually
174 originating or terminating in Internet Protocol from either or both ends of a channel of communication
175 offering real time, multidirectional voice functionality, including, but not limited to, services similar to
176 traditional telephone service.

177 D. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to provide immunity from liability arising out
178 of the operation of a motor vehicle.

179 E. [Expired.]

180 F. For the purposes of this section, the term "compensation" shall not be construed to include (i) the
181 salaries of police, fire, or other public officials or personnel who render such emergency assistance, (ii)
182 the salaries or wages of employees of a coal producer engaging in emergency medical technician service

183 or first aid service pursuant to the provisions of § 45.1-161.38, 45.1-161.101, 45.1-161.199, or
184 45.1-161.263, (iii) complimentary lift tickets, food, lodging, or other gifts provided as a gratuity to
185 volunteer members of the National Ski Patrol System, Inc., by any resort, group, or agency, (iv) the
186 salary of any person who (a) owns an AED for the use at the scene of an emergency, (b) trains
187 individuals, in courses approved by the Board of Health, to operate AEDs at the scene of emergencies,
188 (c) orders AEDs for use at the scene of emergencies, or (d) operates an AED at the scene of an
189 emergency, or (v) expenses reimbursed to any person providing care or assistance pursuant to this
190 section.

191 For the purposes of this section, an emergency medical care attendant or technician shall be deemed
192 to include a person licensed or certified as such or its equivalent by any other state when he is
193 performing services which he is licensed or certified to perform by such other state in caring for a
194 patient in transit in the Commonwealth, which care originated in such other state.

195 Further, the public shall be urged to receive training on how to use CPR and an AED in order to
196 acquire the skills and confidence to respond to emergencies using both CPR and an AED.

197 [~~2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.~~]