

it provides the provisions that the Board of Ambulance Advisors may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations establishing various classes of ambulance service based on the mode of transportation, both ground and air. Currently, you can transport by air if you have medical personnel. What we're looking for here is that a helicopter or an aircraft could actually be licensed as an ambulance with the same type of personnel that you have in a ground transport, including paramedics, as well as registered nurses that would fly directly to the scene of an accident. This is something that has been done in western Nebraska in looking at the space and the miles that you have to cover, and also in connection with ground transportation, to see which would be the most economical, which would be the most feasible. But you cannot, under current statute, have the kind of emergency personnel on an aircraft that you can in a ground unit. And so this would just license air ambulance services in the state of Nebraska.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hillman. You've heard the opening. Mr. Clerk, I understand there is an amendment filed to this amendment?

CLERK: Senator Wickersham would move to amend the amendment, AM3588, Senator. (Amendment may be found on page 1082 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I'll be very brief. There is language in Senator Schellpeper's amendment that deals with this issue, but the language here is the preferred language and I think the correct language to be used. This simply deals with an issue concerning ambulance services, two different kinds of services and a Technician-D Service Program, and a Medical Technician-Intermediate Service Program. What the intent of the amendments is, is to allow those service programs to deliver services that are of a lower character, if they do not have the appropriate personnel on the ambulance as they leave the barn. So if they do not have an EMT-D on the ambulance, and they are an EMT-D Service Program, they can't offer EMT-D services, but they can offer services as EMTs. But they're not precluded from leaving the barn. If you have an Intermediate Service Program and you do not have EMT-Is on board, but you have EMTs on board, you can offer EMT service.