



## 24-14 RESOLUTION

### **A RESOLUTION TO DISCONTINUE THE MARK KING INITIATIVE AS A NATIONAL REGISTRY CERTIFICATION PATHWAY AND MAINTAIN THE STATE LICENSED ONLY DATABASE**

WHEREAS, Mark E. King (1953-2006) was the State EMS Director for West Virginia, a former National Registry Board member, and an EMS provider for over 25 years and desired that States require EMS providers to maintain their National EMS Certification; and

WHEREAS, the National Registry established the Mark King Initiative (MKI) as a pathway to certification to recognize and honor the contributions of Mark King, with the intent of providing an alternative pathway to certification for individuals who previously demonstrated competency through National Registry certification; and

WHEREAS, individuals who have current state EMS licenses but never held National Registry certification were onboarded in a State Licensed Only status and maintained their state license using the same recertification requirements as National Registry certificants; and

WHEREAS, the Mark King Initiative certification pathway, while well-intentioned, may raise concerns regarding alignment with the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) Accreditation Standards which require that certification bodies maintain rigorous eligibility criteria to ensure fairness, consistency, and the integrity of the certification process; and

WHEREAS, the NCCA standards mandate that all pathways to certification must be based on a fair, transparent, and standardized assessment of competencies, ensuring that all candidates meet the same rigorous requirements, regardless of their background or previous experience; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of the Mark King Initiative as a pathway to certification may be inconsistent with the credibility of the certification process by allowing for certification without the standardized examination, thereby creating discrepancies in the assurance of entry level competency; and

WHEREAS, the National Registry is committed to upholding the highest standards of certification, ensuring that all certified individuals have been evaluated through a consistent and standardized process that adheres to NCCA standards;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Registry of EMTs Board of Directors directs the Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer to update and enforce policies for discontinuing the Mark King Initiative as a pathway to certification and maintain a database for currently established State Licensed Only individuals, as soon as feasibly possible, to ensure full compliance with NCCA and ISO/IEC 17024:2012 standards, and to maintain the integrity, fairness, and credibility of the certification process for all current certificants and future candidates.

National Registry will communicate this change to all stakeholders and provide support to those who may have been pursuing certification through the Mark King Initiative, ensuring they have access to certification pathways that meet the rigorous requirements of NCCA and ISO 17024.

- Related policies should be updated on or before December 31, 2024.

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL REGISTRY OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS BY RESOLUTION NO. 24-14 ON THE 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.**

**RATIFIED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AFTER 60 DAY PUBLIC COMMENT ON FEBRUARY 4, 2025.**