

1 SB183
2 216490-3
3 By Senator Waggoner
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 03-FEB-22

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

10
11 Relating to emergency medical services; to make
12 findings and declarations that emergency medical services are
13 essential public services performed for a public purpose.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

15 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares
16 the following:

17 (1) Emergency medical services are an essential
18 public service and a part of the health care safety net for
19 many residents of this state.

20 (2) It is in the public interest to assure that high
21 quality emergency and urgent medical services are readily
22 available to the residents of this state to prevent death and
23 reduce suffering and disability which arise from severe
24 illness and injury.

25 (3) The public interest is best achieved through the
26 delivery of emergency medical services through a coordinated
27 emergency medical services system.

1 (4) The transportation of both emergency and
2 non-emergency patients is an integral part of the health care
3 delivery system in this state, and it is in the public
4 interest that the emergency medical services system serve all
5 of the following persons in this state:

6 a. Any person who requires immediate medical care to
7 address illness or injury.

8 b. Any person who needs transportation to a hospital
9 or other health care provider to receive that care.

10 c. Any person who requires medical assessment,
11 monitoring, assistance, treatment or observation during
12 transportation by trained emergency medical personnel.

13 (5) It serves the public interest if the emergency
14 medical services system is able to quickly adapt and evolve to
15 meet the needs of the resident of this state for emergency and
16 urgent medical care and to reduce the effect of illness and
17 injury.

18 (6) It serves the public interest if the emergency
19 medical services system provides community-based health
20 promotion services that are integrated with the overall health
21 care system.

22 (7) Emergency medical services should be
23 acknowledged, promoted, and supported as an essential service
24 and any eligible funding should be available for emergency
25 medical services without any distinction between the public or
26 private sectors of emergency medical services.

1 (b) Based on the foregoing, the Legislature formally
2 declares that emergency medical services delivered by both the
3 public and private sector, including ambulance services, are
4 essential services in this state for the public welfare and
5 public safety of the residents of this state and that all
6 emergency medical services are delivered for a public purpose.

7 (c) Nothing in this section requires a county
8 commission to fund or otherwise provide emergency medical
9 services or ambulance services.

10 Section 2. This act shall become effective
11 immediately following its passage and approval by the
12 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
committee on Governmental Affairs..... 03-FEB-22

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
dar 1 amendment..... 08-FEB-22

Read for the third time and passed as amended 09-FEB-22

Yeas 29
Nays 0

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.