

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

1 SB183

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 Relating to emergency medical services; to make
6 findings and declarations that emergency medical services are
7 essential public services performed for a public purpose.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares
10 the following:

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

14 (2) It is in the public interest to assure that high
15 quality emergency and urgent medical services are readily
16 available to the residents of this state to prevent death and
17 reduce suffering and disability which arise from severe
18 illness and injury.

19 (3) The public interest is best achieved through the
20 delivery of emergency medical services through a coordinated
21 emergency medical services system.

22 (4) The transportation of both emergency and
23 non-emergency patients is an integral part of the health care
24 delivery system in this state, and it is in the public

1 interest that the emergency medical services system serve all
2 of the following persons in this state:

3 a. Any person who requires immediate medical care to
4 address illness or injury.

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

7 c. Any person who requires medical assessment,
8 monitoring, assistance, treatment or observation during
9 transportation by trained emergency medical personnel.

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

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

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

24 (b) Based on the foregoing, the Legislature formally
25 declares that emergency medical services delivered by both the

1 public and private sector, including ambulance services, are
2 essential services in this state for the public welfare and
3 public safety of the residents of this state and that all
4 emergency medical services are delivered for a public purpose.

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

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

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB183

Senate 09-FEB-22

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 24-FEB-22

By: Senator Waggoner