

STORAGE NAME: h0567a.ca
DATE: March 11, 1997

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
BILL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT - LOCAL LEGISLATION**

BILL #: HB 567

RELATING TO: Sanibel Island Fire Control District (Lee County)

SPONSOR(S): Representative Livingston

COMPANION BILL(S): SB 742 (i)

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS 5 YEAS 0 NAYS
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

This bill augments the Lee County emergency medical services system by allowing the Sanibel Island Fire Control District to provide emergency medical and advanced life support services subject to the provisions of general law.

According to the attached Economic Impact Statement, this bill does not appear to have a significant fiscal impact.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Sanibel Island Fire Control District (District) is an independent special district established by special act of the Legislature in 1955. The District encompasses approximately 12.5 square miles, approximately half of which is federal and state conservation land. The District has two fire stations and employs 17 paid staff members and 15 volunteers. The District currently owns 3 engines, 2 rescue vehicles, 4 staff vehicles and 1 utility pickup. The District answered 1,100 calls in 1996, with an average response time of 3 to 4 minutes.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill allows the District to augment the Lee County emergency medical services system by providing emergency medical and advanced life support services on Sanibel Island, subject to the provisions of Chapter 401, Florida Statutes.

C. LAWS OF FLORIDA/FLORIDA STATUTES AFFECTED:

Chapter 30930, Laws of Florida, 1955, as amended.

D. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

Not applicable.

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

Not applicable.

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

Not applicable.

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

Not applicable.

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

Not applicable.

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

Not applicable.

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

Not applicable.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

Not applicable.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

Not applicable.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

Not applicable.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

Not applicable.

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

Not applicable.

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

Not applicable.

4. Individual Freedom:

a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

Not applicable.

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

Not applicable.

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

Not applicable.

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

Not applicable.

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

Not applicable.

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

Not applicable.

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

Not applicable.

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

Not applicable.

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

- (1) parents and guardians?

Not applicable.

- (2) service providers?

Not applicable.

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(3) government employees/agencies?

Not applicable.

E. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1 -- adds subsection (7) to section 3 of chapter 55-30930, Laws of Florida, as amended. The addition allows the District to provide, subject to the provisions of Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, emergency medical and advanced life support services on Sanibel Island.

Section 2 -- provides that this bill shall be effective upon becoming law.

III. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? January 10, 1997

WHERE? Fort Myers News-Press, Lee County, Florida

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN?

C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

IV. COMMENTS:

The District Fire Chief comments that the emergency medical and advanced life support services provided for in this bill will allow the District to augment Lee County's emergency medical services system by providing such services on Sanibel Island. The hospital nearest to the District is the Fort Myers Hospital, which is 20 minutes to one hour away, depending on traffic. This bill allows the District to provide emergency medical services and advanced life support at the scene. The District does not wish to transport patients, but to stabilize them at the scene for transport by the Lee County emergency medical service system.

There are no additional costs relating to training, as personnel in the District are already trained to provide emergency medical and advanced life support services.

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V. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None.

VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Prepared by:

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