

By Representative Patterson

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to local governments; providing
3 that units of local government may not contract
4 with specified organizations to provide
5 emergency medical services and fire protection
6 services without prior approval by the electors
7 at a referendum; providing definitions;
8 providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. (1) As used in this section, the term:

13 (a) "Emergency medical services" means:

14 1. The treatment of life-threatening medical
15 emergencies through the use of techniques such as endotracheal
16 intubation, the administration of drugs or intravenous fluids,
17 telemetry, cardiac monitoring, and cardiac defibrillation by a
18 qualified person, pursuant to rules of the Department of
19 Health; or

20 2. The treatment of medical emergencies by a qualified
21 person through the use of techniques such as patient
22 assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), splinting,
23 obstetrical assistance, bandaging, administration of oxygen,
24 application of medical antishock trousers, administration of a
25 subcutaneous injection using a premeasured autoinjector of
26 epinephrine to a person suffering an anaphylactic reaction,
27 and other techniques described in the Emergency Medical
28 Technician Basic Training Course Curriculum of the United
29 States Department of Transportation. The term also includes
30 other techniques which have been approved and are performed

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1 under conditions specified by rules of the Department of
2 Health.

3 (b) "Emergency medical services personnel" means
4 persons who are certified by the Department of Health to
5 perform emergency medical services.

6 (c) "Firefighter" means any person who is employed as
7 a full-time professional firefighter, whose primary
8 responsibility is the prevention and extinguishment of fires,
9 the protection and saving of life and property, and the
10 enforcement of municipal, county, and state fire prevention
11 codes, as well as of any law pertaining to the prevention and
12 control of fires, and who is certified pursuant to section
13 633.35, Florida Statutes.

14 (d) "Fire protection services" means the prevention
15 and extinguishment of fires, the protection and saving of life
16 and property, and the enforcement of municipal, county, and
17 state fire prevention codes and laws relating to the
18 prevention and control of fires.

19 (e) "Unit of local government" means a county,
20 municipality, consolidated city-county government, special
21 district, local agency, authority, or any other local
22 governmental body.

23 (2) A unit of local government that provides fire
24 protection services or emergency medical services, or both,
25 for its residents using firefighters or emergency medical
26 services personnel may not provide fire protection services or
27 emergency medical services through an organization that is not
28 a local government, a department of local government, or a
29 state or federal agency and that provides fire protection
30 services or emergency medical services for the unit of local
31 government under a contract or other agreement for profit

1 without the approval of the majority of the voters of the unit
2 of local government voting at the next scheduled general
3 election or at a special election.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

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7 SENATE SUMMARY

8 Provides that units of local government may not contract
9 with specified organizations to provide emergency medical
10 services and fire protection services without prior
11 approval of a majority of the electors voting at a
12 general or special election. Provides definitions.

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