

By Senator Dyer

14-302-00

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

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

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

(a) "Emergency medical services" means:

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

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

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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