

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 572

Amendment No.      Barcode 623072

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11	Senator Fasano moved the following amendment:		
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13	<b>Senate Amendment (with title amendment)</b>		
14	On page 4, line 24, delete that line		
15			
16	and insert:		
17	Section 4. Section 768.1335, Florida Statutes, is		
18	created to read:		
19	<u>768.1335 Emergency Medical Dispatch Act;</u>		
20	<u>presumption.--</u>		
21	<u>(1) This section may be known by the popular name the</u>		
22	<u>"Emergency Medical Dispatch Act."</u>		
23	<u>(2) As used in this section:</u>		
24	<u>(a) "Emergency medical dispatch" means the function of</u>		
25	<u>utilizing emergency medical dispatch protocols.</u>		
26	<u>(b) "Emergency medical dispatcher" means a person who</u>		
27	<u>is trained or certified in the prompt and accurate processing</u>		
28	<u>of calls for emergency medical assistance.</u>		
29	<u>(c) "Emergency medical dispatch agency" means any</u>		
30	<u>private or public entity that is responsible for the emergency</u>		
31	<u>medical dispatch by emergency medical dispatchers.</u>		

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1           (d) "Emergency medical dispatch protocol" means  
2 guidelines for processing calls for emergency medical  
3 assistance or for the dispatching of emergency medical  
4 services in a prehospital setting, which are substantially  
5 similar to standards set forth by the American Society for  
6 Testing and Materials or the National Highway Traffic Safety  
7 Administration and which have been incorporated into an  
8 emergency medical dispatch training program.

9           (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
10 contrary and unless otherwise immune under s. 768.28, any  
11 emergency medical dispatcher or the emergency medical dispatch  
12 agency, its agents, or employees who utilize emergency medical  
13 dispatch protocols are presumed not to have acted negligently  
14 regarding any injuries or damages resulting from the use of  
15 emergency medical dispatch protocols, if the emergency medical  
16 dispatcher or the emergency dispatch agency, its agents, or  
17 employees:

18           (a) Properly trained their emergency medical  
19 dispatchers in an emergency medical dispatch that is  
20 substantially similar to standards set forth by the American  
21 Society for Testing and Materials or the National Highway  
22 Traffic Safety Administration;

23           (b) Implemented standard practices and management for  
24 emergency medical dispatch or practices that are substantially  
25 similar to standards set forth by the American Society for  
26 Testing and Materials or the National Highway Traffic Safety  
27 Administration; and

28           (c) Utilized standard practices for training,  
29 instructor qualification, and certification eligibility of  
30 emergency medical dispatchers or standards that are  
31 substantially similar to the American Society for Testing and

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1 Materials or the National Highway Traffic Safety  
2 Administration.

3 Section 5. Section 401.111, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 401.111 Emergency medical services grant program;  
6 authority.--The department is hereby authorized to make grants  
7 to local agencies and emergency medical services organizations  
8 in accordance with any agreement entered into pursuant to this  
9 part. These grants shall be designed to assist said agencies  
10 and organizations in providing emergency medical services,  
11 including emergency medical dispatch. The cost of  
12 administering this program shall be paid by the department  
13 from funds appropriated to it.

14 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003,  
15 except that sections 4 and 5 of this act shall take effect  
16 September 11, 2003.

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19 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

20 And the title is amended as follows:

21 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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23 and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to health care; amending s.

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466.006, F.S.; allowing certain dental students

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to take the examination required for practicing

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dentistry in this state; creating s. 466.0065,

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F.S.; allowing certain dental students to take

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regional licensure examinations under specified

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conditions; restricting the applicability of

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1 examination results; requiring approval by the  
2 Board of Dentistry and providing prerequisites  
3 to such approval; providing an appropriation  
4 and authorizing a position; creating s.  
5 768.1335, F.S.; providing a short title;  
6 providing definitions; providing a presumption  
7 of non-negligence in the use of emergency  
8 medical dispatch protocols by an emergency  
9 medical dispatcher or the emergency medical  
10 dispatch agency, its agents, or employees;  
11 amending s. 401.111, F.S.; authorizing grants  
12 by the Department of Health to emergency  
13 medical dispatch agencies; providing effective  
14 dates.

15  
16 WHEREAS, emergency medical dispatch programs promote  
17 appropriate standards that result in more effective dispatch  
18 of emergency services and the saving of lives, and

19 WHEREAS, the dispatcher is the first responder to a  
20 medical emergency when someone dials 911 or calls a medical  
21 dispatch agency directly, and dispatchers are being recognized  
22 nationally as the true first responders to the emergency  
23 scene, and

24 WHEREAS, an emergency medical dispatcher has an  
25 immediate response time during which to offer basic  
26 instructions to the caller regardless of the emergency medical  
27 services response time and is crucial for the delivery and  
28 receipt of information to EMS units, and

29 WHEREAS, an emergency medical dispatch program is a key  
30 component of a quality EMS system, and

31 WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Heart

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1 Association (AHA), the American College of Emergency  
2 Physicians (ACEP), the National Association of Emergency  
3 Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP), the National Institute  
4 of Health (NIH), the National Highway Traffic Safety  
5 Administration (NHTSA), and the American Society of Testing  
6 and Materials (ASTM) have endorsed the development and  
7 adoption of standards for emergency medical dispatch, and  
8           WHEREAS, a properly trained emergency medical  
9 dispatcher significantly improves the quality of care provided  
10 by an EMS system because the dispatcher is able to identify  
11 the level of need of the caller, including resource  
12 allocations and response modes, thus enabling more effective  
13 and efficient dispatch of limited response resources; identify  
14 situations that might require prearrival instructions; gather  
15 information to be relayed to the responding crews to help them  
16 better manage and respond to the emergency medical situation  
17 upon arrival; and obtain information regarding emergency  
18 medical scene safety for the patient, bystanders, and  
19 responding personnel, and

20           WHEREAS, many states are now adopting a standard  
21 emergency medical dispatch program, and

22           WHEREAS, the most successful EMS systems are those that  
23 have strong field response times coupled with well-trained  
24 emergency medical dispatchers, NOW, THEREFORE,  
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