

By the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and Senators Bennett and Lynn

597-02965-09

20092282c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to first-responder services; creating
3 ss. 125.01045 and 166.0446, F.S.; prohibiting counties
4 and municipalities from imposing a fee or seeking
5 reimbursement for costs relating to certain first-
6 responder services; providing an exception; defining
7 the term "first responder"; providing an effective
8 date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Section 125.01045, Florida Statutes, is created
13 to read:

14 125.01045 Prohibition of fees for first-responder
15 services.-

16 (1) A county may not impose a fee or seek reimbursement for
17 any costs or expenses that may be incurred for services provided
18 by a first responder, including costs or expenses related to
19 personnel, supplies, motor vehicles, or equipment in response to
20 a motor vehicle accident, except for transportation and
21 treatment provided by ambulance services licensed pursuant to s.
22 401.23(5).

23 (2) As used in this section, the term "first responder"
24 means a law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10, a
25 firefighter as defined in s. 633.30, or an emergency medical
26 technician or paramedic as defined in s. 401.23 who is employed
27 by the state or a local government. A volunteer law enforcement
28 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician or
29 paramedic engaged by the state or a local government is also

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30 considered a first responder of the state or local government
31 for purposes of this section.

32 Section 2. Section 166.0446, Florida Statutes, is created
33 to read:

34 166.0446 Prohibition of fees for first-responder services.-

35 (1) A municipality may not impose a fee or seek
36 reimbursement for any costs or expenses that may be incurred for
37 services provided by a first responder, including costs or
38 expenses related to personnel, supplies, motor vehicles, or
39 equipment in response to a motor vehicle accident, except for
40 transportation and treatment provided by ambulance services
41 licensed pursuant to s. 401.23(5).

42 (2) As used in this section, the term "first responder"
43 means a law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10, a
44 firefighter as defined in s. 633.30, or an emergency medical
45 technician or paramedic as defined in s. 401.23 who is employed
46 by the state or a local government. A volunteer law enforcement
47 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician or
48 paramedic engaged by the state or a local government is also
49 considered a first responder of the state or local government
50 for purposes of this section.

51 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.