

HB 1023

2024

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to St. Lucie County; providing an
3 exception to general law; providing definitions;
4 limiting compensation to a health care provider that
5 provides medical services for an inmate housed in a
6 St. Lucie County detention center if the provider does
7 not have a contract with the county to provide such
8 services; limiting compensation to an entity that
9 provides emergency medical transportation services for
10 an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County detention
11 center if the entity does not have a contract with the
12 county to provide such services; providing
13 applicability; providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. (1) Notwithstanding any other law to the
18 contrary, this act and all rules adopted pursuant to this act
19 apply to the area located within St. Lucie County.

20 (2) As used in this act, the term:

21 (a) "Air ambulance" means a fixed-wing or rotary-wing
22 aircraft used for, or intended to be used for, air
23 transportation of sick or injured persons requiring or likely to
24 require medical attention during transport.

25 (b) "Ambulance" or "emergency medical services vehicle"

26 means a privately or publicly owned vehicle or vessel that is
 27 designed, constructed, reconstructed, maintained, equipped, or
 28 operated for, and is used for, or intended to be used for, land
 29 or water transportation of sick or injured persons requiring or
 30 likely to require medical attention during transport.

31 (c) "Emergency medical transportation services" includes,
 32 but is not limited to, services rendered by means of an
 33 ambulance, emergency medical services vehicle, or air ambulance.

34 (d) "Health care provider" means:

35 1. A hospital licensed under chapter 395, Florida
 36 Statutes.

37 2. A physician or physician assistant licensed under
 38 chapter 458, Florida Statutes.

39 3. An osteopathic physician or physician assistant
 40 licensed under chapter 459, Florida Statutes.

41 4. A podiatric physician licensed under chapter 461,
 42 Florida Statutes.

43 5. A health maintenance organization certificated under
 44 part I of chapter 641, Florida Statutes.

45 6. An ambulatory surgical center licensed under chapter
 46 395, Florida Statutes.

47 7. An other medical facility as defined in paragraph (e).

48 8. A professional association, partnership, corporation,
 49 joint venture, or other association composed of the persons
 50 provided in subparagraphs 2., 3., and 4. for professional

51 activity.

52 (e) "Other medical facility" means a facility the primary
53 purpose of which is to provide human medical diagnostic services
54 or a facility providing nonsurgical human medical treatment, to
55 which facility the patient is admitted and from which facility
56 the patient is discharged within the same working day, and which
57 facility is not part of a hospital. However, a facility existing
58 for the primary purpose of performing terminations of pregnancy
59 or an office maintained by a physician or dentist for the
60 practice of medicine may not be construed to be an "other
61 medical facility."

62 (3) Compensation to a health care provider to provide
63 medical services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County
64 detention center may not exceed 110 percent of the Medicare
65 allowable rate if the health care provider does not have a
66 contract with St. Lucie County to provide inmate medical
67 services. However, compensation to a health care provider may
68 not exceed 125 percent of the Medicare allowable rate if:

69 (a) The health care provider does not have a contract with
70 St. Lucie County to provide inmate medical services; and

71 (b) The health care provider reported a negative operating
72 margin for the previous year to the Agency for Health Care
73 Administration through hospital-audited financial data.

74 (4) Compensation to an entity to provide emergency medical
75 transportation services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie

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76 County detention center may not exceed 110 percent of the
77 Medicare allowable rate if the entity does not have a contract
78 with St. Lucie County to provide inmate emergency medical
79 transportation services.

80 (5) This act does not apply to charges for medical
81 services provided at a hospital operated by St. Lucie County.

82 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.