

BILL

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1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to the Emergency Medical Services  
 3 Authority, Pinellas County; amending chapter 80-585,  
 4 Laws of Florida, as amended; providing for the  
 5 authority to set the level of service to be met by  
 6 emergency medical services providers; removing a  
 7 restriction on minimum levels of service; authorizing  
 8 an EMS provider to provide a higher level of service  
 9 at its own expense; revising requirements relating to  
 10 reimbursement of EMS providers by the authority;  
 11 providing an effective date.

12  
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14  
 15 Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 2 and section 3 of  
 16 chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2001-305,  
 17 Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

18 Section 2. The authority shall have the following powers  
 19 and duties:

20 (9) To establish uniform standards which shall be equal to  
 21 or stricter than those provided in Chapter 401, Florida  
 22 Statutes, insofar as it relates to Emergency Medical Services  
 23 and the Department of Health EMS Rules, Chapter 64J-1 ~~10D-66~~, as  
 24 they exist and may hereafter be amended and to provide for the  
 25 enforcement of same. The authority has the power to establish  
 26 levels of service for all emergency medical services that must  
 27 be met by EMS providers; ~~provided that levels of service on or~~  
 28 ~~after the effective date of this act may not be lower than~~

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

29 ~~levels of service as of January 1, 1989, without the consent of~~  
 30 ~~the affected EMS providers; and provided further that an EMS~~  
 31 provider may not be required to increase its level of service to  
 32 a level of service established by the authority that results in  
 33 the authority reducing the payment of reimbursable costs to EMS  
 34 providers because the total reimbursable costs would exceed the  
 35 1.5 millage authorized by this act. An EMS provider may provide  
 36 a higher level of service, at its own expense, than that level  
 37 of service funded by the authority.

38 Section 3. The authority shall make provision for EMS in  
 39 any designated districts. This may be done on a contract  
 40 management basis where new services are to be provided. However,  
 41 where EMS are already being provided, ~~full~~ reimbursement shall  
 42 be made by the authority to the EMS provider for the reasonable  
 43 ~~and customary~~ cost of said services, such cost to be defined by  
 44 the authority. The firm receiving said management contract will  
 45 operate under the direction of the EMS medical director,  
 46 carrying out such policies and programs as the authority deems  
 47 necessary. In determining reimbursable costs pursuant to this  
 48 section, where EMS are already being provided, the authority may  
 49 take into consideration the standards and levels of service  
 50 established pursuant to section 2 and may reimburse the EMS  
 51 providers for reasonable actual costs incurred in providing EMS  
 52 in accordance with the standards and levels of service  
 53 established by the authority. However, neither the authority nor  
 54 the Board of County Commissioners may be required to pay or  
 55 budget for the payment of reimbursable costs to the EMS  
 56 providers if that payment would cause the annual budget of the

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

57 authority to exceed the 1.5 millage authorized by this article.  
 58 If budget requests approved by the authority for the new fiscal  
 59 year exceed the total estimated revenue available, including ad  
 60 valorem tax revenue generated by 1.5 mills, the authority shall:

61 (1) Calculate the percentage of each provider's share of  
 62 the total requested and approved increases in the authority's  
 63 budget for the new fiscal year.

64 (2) Calculate the revenue available for funding increases  
 65 by subtracting the approved authority budget for the current  
 66 fiscal year from the total estimated revenue available for the  
 67 new fiscal year.

68 (3) Multiply the percentage calculated in subsection (1)  
 69 for each provider requesting an increase, by the amount  
 70 calculated in subsection (2), and add the resulting amount to  
 71 that provider's approved budget for the current fiscal year.  
 72 This amount will be the total budgeted for that provider for the  
 73 new fiscal year.

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