

HOUSE BILL NO. 177

INTRODUCED BY D. MOORE

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING PRIVATE AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE LAWS; AMENDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE INSURANCE CODE; AMENDING SECTION 50-6-320, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 50-6-320, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-6-320. Private air ambulance service -- findings -- exemptions from insurance code. (1) The legislature finds that there is a need to assist Montana consumers with regard to the availability and affordability of air ambulance service.

(2) A private air ambulance service that solicits membership subscriptions, accepts membership applications, charges membership fees, and provides air ambulance services to subscription members and designated members of their households is not an insurer as defined in 33-1-201, a health carrier as defined in 33-36-103, a health service corporation as defined in 33-30-101, or a health maintenance organization as defined in 33-31-102 if the private air ambulance service:

- (a) is licensed in accordance with 50-6-306;
- (b) has been in operation in Montana for at least 2 years or has been licensed in good standing in another state for at least 2 years; and
- (c) has submitted evidence of its compliance with this section to the department.

(3) Any private air ambulance service membership program must have arrangements with other air ambulance service providers in Montana to the extent reasonably possible to ensure maximum geographic coverage within the state for the subscribers to the program."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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