

**Sixty-second Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2011**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1044
(Legislative Management)
(Public Safety and Transportation Committee)

AN ACT to create and enact a new chapter to title 23 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to ambulance operations areas, an emergency medical services advisory council, emergency medical services funding areas, and state financial assistance for emergency medical services; to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 23-27-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to emergency medical services operations service areas; to repeal chapter 23-40 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to emergency medical services allocations; to provide a statement of legislative intent; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 23-27-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. The state department of health shall license emergency medical services operations. ~~After June 30, 2001, the and may designate their service areas. The~~ department shall limit the issuance of a license for any new emergency medical services operation based on the needs of the service area if the applicant for the new license was licensed before July 1, 2001, and was subsequently relicensed under section 23-27-04.5. A license for an emergency medical services operation is nontransferable.

SECTION 2. A new chapter to title 23 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter:

1. "Emergency medical services funding area" means a geographic area eligible for state assistance and includes one or more licensed ambulance operations.
2. "Minimum reasonable cost" means the cost of operating one transporting ambulance service or the sum of the cost to operate one transporting ambulance service and any combination of one substation and one quick response unit.
3. "Required local matching funds" means revenue generated by the provision of emergency medical services, local mill levies, local sales tax, local donations, and in-kind donations of services.

Emergency medical services advisory council.

The state department of health shall establish an emergency medical services advisory council. The council must include at least three representatives appointed by an emergency medical services organization, one individual to represent basic life support and one individual to represent advanced life support, both appointed by the state health officer, and other members designated by the state health officer, not to exceed a total of fourteen members. The department shall consider the recommendations of the council on the plan for integrated emergency medical services in the state, development of emergency medical services funding areas, development of the emergency medical services funding areas application process and budget criteria, and other issues relating to emergency medical services as determined by the state health officer. Council members are entitled to reimbursement for expenses

in the manner provided in section 44-08-04. The department shall establish by policy the length of terms and the method for rotation of membership.

Emergency medical services funding areas.

The state department of health shall establish and update biennially a plan for integrated emergency medical services in this state. The plan must identify ambulance operations areas, emergency medical services funding areas that require state financial assistance to operate a minimally reasonable level of emergency medical services, and a minimum reasonable cost for an emergency medical services operation. The department shall designate emergency medical services funding areas based on criteria adopted by the health council and published in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

State financial assistance for emergency medical services - Confidential information - Annual allocation.

Emergency medical services operations that request financial assistance from the state must provide requested fiscal information to the state department of health for use in financial assistance determinations. All information provided to the department under this section is confidential. The state department of health shall determine annually the allocation amount of state financial assistance for each emergency medical services funding area based on the department's determination of:

1. The minimum annual funding necessary to operate the emergency medical services operation or service designated to operate in the ambulance funding area, based on the financial needs unique to each emergency medical services funding area.
2. Required local matching funds commensurate with at least ten dollars per capita within the emergency medical services funding area.

State financial assistance for emergency medical services - Distribution limit.

During the first year of the biennium, the state department of health may not distribute more than one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the biennial legislative appropriation for state financial assistance for emergency medical services.

SECTION 3. REPEAL. Chapter 23-40 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

SECTION 4. STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The \$3,000,000 appropriation in section 5 of this Act is in addition to the \$1,250,000 appropriation in 2011 House Bill No. 1004. The combined appropriations must be used as the base level for the purpose of budgeting for the 2013-15 executive budget.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state department of health, for the purpose of providing state assistance grants to emergency medical services operations and related administrative costs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2013.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 3 of this Act becomes effective on June 30, 2012.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1044.

House Vote: Yeas 73 Nays 18 Absent 3

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2011.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2011.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2011,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State