

Date: 2-10-21

House Political Subdivisions

Bill: 1st Sub. HB 303 Emergency Medical Services Revisions

Sponsor: Rep. Johnson

Floor Sponsor: Sen. Bramble

UASD Position: Tracking

This Bill: amends provisions related to emergency medical services.

Discussion: Rep. Johnson said he's speaking to the 1st substitute. This bill will try to align geographic districts with political boundaries. Brad Hannig, Logan City Fire Chief, said this bill codifies emergency medical services (EMS) as essential services. The fiscal note is a little misleading. Because the state mandates that every area is covered, that service is already provided. There may be a cost shift, but that cost is already being incurred somewhere. Darren Bushman, Piute County Commissioner, said there are counties covering all the cities and municipalities, cities covering counties, and in some places neither. Guy Dansie, director of EMS under the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness, spoke in support of the bill. This bill allows all political subdivisions to participate in the request for proposal process if they choose to. It also clarifies regulatory licensing issues. Mike Willits, Sevier County Emergency Medical Services Director, spoke in support of the bill. Tammy Barton, Garfield County Ambulance Service Director, spoke in support. Jeremy Craft, Lehi City Fire Chief, spoke in support of the bill. The Utah State Fire Chiefs Association supports the bill. Ryan Peterson spoke on behalf of the City of American Fork. They are concerned about eliminating the overlapped zones in Utah County. Dennis Blackburn, Wayne County Commissioner, supports the bill. Mark Becraft, North Davis Fire Chief, supports the bill. David Mortensen said he supports the bill, but he is concerned about it creating confusion regarding overlapped areas. Mr. Dansie said the intent was to eliminate the dated part of 416. This would affect Salt Lake County, Utah County, and parts of Weber County. They are not opposed to leaving it in there, or clarifying that they won't change licenses on existing overlapped areas. Mr. Mortensen said he does not want a bill passed that has the unintended consequence of eliminating overlapped service areas. He supports the other aspects of the bill. They discussed an amendment to resolve that issue. The 1st substitute was adopted. The bill was amended on lines 274, 284, and 288 to reinstate the deleted words and to strike lines 598-600.

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

Outcome: 1st Sub. HB 303 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.