

STATE OF NEW YORK

857--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. JONES, WOERNER, COOK, J. RIVERA, BYRNE, MORINELLO, BLANKENBUSH, BUTTENSCHON, SIMPSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments -- recommitted to the Committee on Local Governments in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the establishment of special districts for general ambulance services; and to amend the executive law, in relation to a report on volunteer firefighter and ambulance services staffing

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of subdivision 1 of section
2 122-b of the general municipal law, as amended by chapter 303 of the
3 laws of 1980, are amended and a new closing paragraph is added to read
4 as follows:

5 (d) Establish a special district for the financing and operation of
6 general ambulance services as set forth by this section, whereby any
7 county, city, town or village, acting individually, or jointly with any
8 other county, city, town and/or village, through its governing body or
9 bodies, following applicable procedures as are required for the estab-
10 lishment of fire districts in article eleven of the town law or follow-
11 ing applicable procedures as are required for the establishment of joint
12 fire districts in article eleven-A of the town law, with such special
13 district being authorized by this section to be established in all or
14 any part of any such participating county or counties, town or towns,
15 city or cities and/or village or villages;

16 (e) Employ any combination of the methods authorized in paragraph (a),
17 (b) [~~or~~], (c) or (d);

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 [~~(e)~~] (f) No contract shall be entered into pursuant to the provisions
2 of this section for the services of an emergency rescue and first aid
3 squad of a fire department or fire company which is subject to the
4 provisions of section two hundred nine-b of [~~the general municipal law~~]
5 this chapter;

6 [~~(f)~~] (g) Consider prehospital emergency treatment as that care
7 provided by certified emergency medical technicians or certified
8 advanced emergency medical technicians certified pursuant to the
9 provisions of article thirty of the public health law.

10 Any county, city, town or village which establishes or participates in
11 a joint district pursuant to paragraph (d) of this subdivision shall
12 dissolve and abolish any preexisting local district serving the same
13 jurisdiction.

14 § 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 719 to read
15 as follows:

16 § 719. Report on volunteer firefighter and ambulance services staff-
17 ing. 1. On or before the first day of January two thousand twenty-three,
18 the commissioner, in consultation with the state office of fire
19 prevention and control, shall prepare and publish a report on the staff-
20 ing of volunteer firefighter and ambulance services in New York state.
21 Such report shall examine and evaluate the challenges and issues
22 concerning the recruiting and maintenance of trained, available staffing
23 by volunteer fire departments, districts and companies as well as for
24 volunteer ambulance districts and companies. Such report shall specif-
25 ically examine and evaluate the challenges and issues that are partic-
26 ular to rural areas of the state and areas with geographic challenges
27 such as mountains, waterways or limited transportation networks.

28 2. In addition to identifying challenges and issues concerning the
29 recruiting and maintenance of trained, available staffing by volunteer
30 fire departments, districts and companies as well as for volunteer ambu-
31 ulance districts and companies across New York state, as required by
32 subdivision one of this section, such report shall also make recommenda-
33 tions on how to address and remediate the challenges and issues identi-
34 fied, with such recommendations being submitted to the governor, the
35 temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the
36 chair of the senate standing committee on local government and the chair
37 of the assembly standing committee on local government at the time of
38 the publishing of the report.

39 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.