

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5331--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

March 2, 2021

Introduced by Sen. STEC -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- recommitted to the Committee on Local Government in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- 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:

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

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

(e) Employ any combination of the methods authorized in paragraph (a),

(b) ~~or~~, (c) or (d);

~~(f)~~ (f) No contract shall be entered into pursuant to the provisions of this section for the services of an emergency rescue and first aid squad of a fire department or fire company which is subject to the

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

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provisions of section two hundred nine-b of [~~the general municipal law~~]  
this chapter;

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

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

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

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

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

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.