

STATE OF NEW YORK

2419

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 26, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. JONES, BUTTENSCHON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the establishment of special districts for general ambulance services within the Adirondack park; 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. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 1 of section 122-b of the
2 general municipal law, as amended by chapter 303 of the laws of 1980, is
3 amended, paragraphs (e) and (f) are relettered paragraphs (f) and (g),
4 and a new closing paragraph is added to read 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, either wholly or partially within the
8 Adirondack park, acting individually, or jointly with any other county,
9 city, town and/or village, either wholly or partially within the Adiron-
10 dack park, through its governing body or bodies, following applicable
11 procedures as are required for the establishment of fire districts in
12 article eleven of the town law or following applicable procedures as are
13 required for the establishment of joint fire districts in article
14 eleven-A of the town law, with such special district being authorized by
15 this section to be established in all or any part of any such partic-
16 ipating county or counties, town or towns, city or cities and/or village
17 or villages;

18 (e) Employ any combination of the methods authorized in paragraph (a),
19 (b) [~~e~~], (c) or (d) of this subdivision;

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

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

LBD04950-01-3

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

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

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

26 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided however that the
27 amendments to paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 of section 122-b of the
28 general municipal law made by section one of this act shall survive the
29 expiration and reversion of such section as provided in section 4 of
30 part KK of chapter 55 of the laws of 2022, as amended.