

SCS SB 1044 -- AMBULANCE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Stouffer (McGhee)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, certain counties are required to have at least one licensed emergency medical technician (EMT), registered nurse, or physician with a patient in the patient compartment of an ambulance when transporting a patient. At all other times when an ambulance is in use as an ambulance, there must be a minimum of one EMT and one other crew member. This substitute repeals the reference to specific counties and specifies that when a licensed ambulance is used as an ambulance and staffed with volunteers, the other crew member required in addition to the EMT may be a licensed EMT, registered nurse, physician, or certified first responder.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that volunteer ambulance districts do not have enough EMTs to meet the minimum staffing requirements. The bill will allow volunteers to ride in the ambulances to meet those requirements.

Testifying for the bill was Representative McGhee for Senator Stouffer.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.