

HOUSE BILL NO. 1597

Introduced by

Representative Heinert

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an exemption; and to provide for the distribution of state financial
2 assistance to eligible ambulance service operations.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION - AMBULANCE SERVICE OPERATION FUNDING**

5 **DISTRIBUTION.** Notwithstanding section 23-46-04 relating to state financial assistance for
6 emergency medical services, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30,
7 2027, the department of health and human services, in consultation with the emergency
8 medical services advisory council, shall provide state financial assistance to each eligible
9 ambulance service operation pursuant to the following calculation:

- 10 1. The minimum reasonable budget for each operation must be determined by adding
11 the product of the operation's average number of runs for the two most recent
12 calendar years multiplied by the cost of a run. The cost of a run for this biennium is
13 two thousand twenty-three dollars. If the average runs multiplied by the cost of a run
14 equals less than one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, the minimum reasonable
15 budget for that ambulance service is one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars.
- 16 2. The operation's grant amount must be determined by deducting the following amounts
17 from the operation's budget calculated under subsection 1:
- 18 a. The product of the operation's average number of runs for the two most recent
19 calendar years multiplied by the reimbursement for a run. The reimbursement for
20 a run is seven hundred ninety-five dollars; and
- 21 b. The product of the property tax valuation of the operation's response area for the
22 most recent taxable year multiplied by five mills. The property tax valuation of the
23 operation's response area must be provided by the county auditor annually no
24 later than July thirty-first. If the response area covers multiple counties, the

- 1 county auditor with the most response area is responsible for coordinating with
2 the other county auditors.
- 3 3. The maximum total grant calculation for each operation, after accounting for the
4 deductions in subsection 2, may not exceed two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars.
- 5 4. The department shall distribute a prorated share of the operation's calculated grant
6 amount if legislative appropriations for state financial assistance for emergency
7 medical services is not sufficient to provide full grant funding calculated under this
8 section.
- 9 5. An operation is eligible to receive funding under this section if the operation is owned
10 and operated by a city or county, or the operation is within the jurisdiction of a rural
11 ambulance service district. An operation is not eligible to receive funding under this
12 section if the operation is located within fifteen miles from another operation and does
13 less than fifty runs per year.
- 14 6. A response area acquired after April 1, 2024, due to an adjacent ambulance service
15 closure is not calculated in the operations response area for the purpose of the grant
16 calculation.