

Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services
This measure may be considered for action during today's work session.

ASSEMBLY BILL 24

**Revises the membership of the Committee on Emergency Medical Services.
(BDR 40-222)**

Sponsored By: Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services (On Behalf of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services)

Date Heard: February 22, 2023

Fiscal Notes: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

Assembly Bill 24 adds a member to the Committee on Emergency Medical Services who is appointed by the Committee and who is employed by or volunteers with an agency, organization, or other operator that provides emergency medical services on tribal land.

Amendments:

Chris McHan, EMS Chief, Elko County Ambulance Service, proposed conceptual amendments to Section 1 of AB 24, amending *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 450B.151 as follows (see also attached letter of intent):

1. Delete amended language in subsection 1 (page 2) and, instead, increase from 9 to 11 the number of members appointed by the State Board of Health to the Committee on Emergency Medical Services.
2. Add to subsection 3 (pages 2 and 3) one member who is employed or serves as a volunteer with a third-service governmental agency that provides emergency medical services but who is not part of another government services, such as a fire department or law enforcement.
3. Revise subsection 4 (page 3, line 7) to require the State Board of Health, instead of the Committee, to appoint to the Committee one member who is employed by or volunteers with an agency, organization, or other operator that provides emergency medical services on tribal land.
 4. *The Committee shall solicit and accept applications from persons who are employed by or volunteer with an agency, organization or other operator that provides emergency medical services on tribal land. After considering the applications submitted pursuant to this subsection, the State Board of Health ~~Committee~~ shall appoint to the Committee one member who is employed by or volunteers with an agency, organization or other operator that provides emergency medical services on tribal land.*
4. Make conforming changes for the other subsections, as applicable.



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February 21, 2023

Assembly Health and Human Services Committee
Nevada State Legislature
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Delivered via Email

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to share my support for AB24 and comments for a needed amendment. In my leadership positions with Elko County Ambulance, I have attended the Committee on Emergency Medical Services (EMS) meetings for several years. I have advocated there is a gap that exists for tribal representation on the committee. I have also expressed that another gap exists, that of representation for “third-service” EMS providers.

Third-service ambulance providers are government EMS agencies that are not part of another government service (i.e., Fire or Law Enforcement). The current committee membership in NRS 450B.151 does not have any possibilities for tribal or third-service representation. In a Rural Nevada EMS Capacity Assessment by the UNR School of Medicine in 2020, it was reported that 11.5% of rural agencies were Tribal EMS Agencies and 15.4% of rural agencies were City/County EMS (third-service). With no current possibilities for tribal or third-service representation, that means 26% of the rural EMS agencies are not represented in the Committee on EMS.

In addition to my desire to see third-service and tribal agencies added as members of the Committee on EMS, I also feel it is important for all the committee members be appointed by the State Board of Health. The Committee on EMS reports to the State Board of Health (NRS 450B.153 (3)). The appointment by the Board of Health also allows for easier compliance with NRS 450B.151 (8), a statute that specifically attempts to make sure representation is distributed across different agencies.

I have attached some suggested language based on my comments.

Please contact me with any further information that may be needed.

Respectfully,

Chris McHan NRP, CACO, CAPO
EMS Chief

CC:

Amanda Osborne, Elko County Emergency Manager
Assemblyman Bert Gurr, District 33
Bobbie Sullivan, Nevada EMS Program Manager

Enclosed:

AB24 ECAS Suggested Language PDF