

ASSEMBLY, No. 5653

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2026

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LARRY WAINSTEIN

District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires municipalities to provide for certain number of basic life support ambulances based on population.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning basic life support ambulance services in
2 municipalities, supplementing Title 40A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes, and amending P.L.1993, c.58.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. (New section) a. As used in this section:

9 “Basic life support ambulance” means an ambulance that is
10 validly licensed by the Department of Health to provide basic life
11 support service.

12 “Basic life support service” means a basic level of pre-hospital
13 care performed in an ambulance including patient stabilization,
14 airway clearance, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, hemorrhage
15 control, initial wound care and fracture stabilization, and other
16 techniques and procedures authorized by the Commissioner of
17 Health.

18 b. A municipality shall ensure operation of at least one basic life
19 support ambulance for every 10,000 residents that reside within a
20 municipality, and shall provide for no fewer than one basic life
21 support ambulance regardless of whether the municipality has fewer
22 than 10,000 residents. A municipality may fulfill the requirements
23 of this section to ensure the operation of a requisite number of basic
24 life support ambulances:

25 (1) by contract with a public, private, or nonprofit basic life
26 support ambulance provider;

27 (2) by agreement for mutual first aid with another municipality
28 pursuant to P.L.1993, c.58 (C.26:2K-61) or with a hospital pursuant
29 to P.L.2015, c.70 (C.26:2K-21.2); or

30 (3) through a duly incorporated first aid and emergency or
31 volunteer ambulance or rescue squad association that operates a
32 basic life support ambulance services in the municipality.

33 c. A municipality may, by ordinance, establish, charge, and
34 collect reasonable fees to recover costs incurred pursuant to this
35 section.

36 d. The provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
37 Legislature as this bill) shall not be construed to limit the number of
38 basic life support ambulances or other types of ambulance services
39 available within a municipality.

40

41 2. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.58 (C.26:2K-61) is amended to read
42 as follows:

43 2. The governing bodies of two or more municipalities may, by
44 enacting reciprocal ordinances, enter into agreements with each
45 other for mutual basic life support services, as that term is defined

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 in section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
2 as this bill), and first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad assistance in
3 case of emergency, subject to the written approval of the volunteer
4 basic life support services provider, and first aid, ambulance, or
5 rescue squad or squads involved. The agreements may provide for:

6 a. Terms and conditions for payment by the municipality
7 receiving assistance to the municipality rendering assistance for
8 each member and each equipped basic life support services, or first
9 aid, ambulance, or rescue squad apparatus for each hour supplied;

10 b. The reimbursement of the municipality or municipalities
11 rendering assistance for any damage to basic life support services,
12 or first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad equipment or other property
13 and for payment to any member of a basic life support services
14 provider, or first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad for injuries
15 sustained while serving pursuant to such agreements, or to a
16 surviving spouse or other dependent if death results; and

17 c. A joint meeting of the municipalities entering into such
18 agreements regarding other matters as are mutually deemed
19 necessary.

20 (cf: P.L.1993, c.58, s.2)

21
22 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
23 after enactment.

24 25 26 STATEMENT

27
28 This bill requires a municipality to maintain a certain number of
29 basic life support ambulances based upon the population of the
30 municipality.

31 Under the bill, a municipality would be obligated to ensure the
32 operation of at least one basic life support ambulance for every
33 10,000 residents. A municipality may provide for the requisite
34 number of basic life support ambulances by contracting with a
35 public, private, or nonprofit basic life support ambulance provider;
36 through a shared services agreement with another municipality or
37 hospital; or through a duly incorporated first aid and emergency or
38 volunteer ambulance or rescue squad association that operates a
39 basic life support ambulance services in the municipality. The bill
40 also authorizes a municipality to charge and collect reasonable fees
41 to recover costs incurred pursuant to the requirements of the bill.
42 This bill does not limit the number of basic life support ambulances
43 or other types of ambulance services available within a
44 municipality.

45 This bill amends State law to permit a municipality to contract
46 with another municipality for mutual basic life support services.

47 The bill is to take effect on the first day of the third month
48 following enactment.