

1 **EMERGENCY RESPONDER PRIORITY**

2 2002 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Sponsor: Kory M. Holdaway**

5 **This act amends provisions related to the Interlocal Cooperation Act and the Utah**
6 **Emergency Medical Services System Act. The act requires providers of police, fire,**
7 **emergency medical technicians, and paramedic services to enter into agreements to facilitate**
8 **the closest responder regardless of geographic or political boundaries. The act limits the**
9 **application of closest responder to counties of the first class.**

10 This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

11 ENACTS:

12 **11-13-5.4**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

13 **26-8a-402.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

15 Section 1. Section **11-13-5.4** is enacted to read:

16 **11-13-5.4. Agreements for joint or cooperative actions -- Police and fire protection**
17 **-- Closest responder.**

18 (1) Any two or more political subdivisions of this state shall enter into agreements with
19 one another for joint or cooperative action pursuant to this act to:

20 (a) enhance regional police and fire protection;

21 (b) facilitate police and fire dispatch communication between political subdivisions, to the
22 extent possible with existing technology and funding; and

23 (c) facilitate closest response for police, fire protection, and emergency medical services
24 through a system which sends the closest responder, regardless of the political subdivision's
25 geographic boundaries, to the location of the request for police, fire protection, or emergency
26 medical services.

27 (2) The provisions of this section apply to counties of the first class and to cities or towns



28 within a county of the first class:

29 (a) which provide fire or police protection; and

30 (b) to the extent that some part of the political subdivisions' boundaries are contiguous.

31 Section 2. Section **26-8a-402.5** is enacted to read:

32 **26-8a-402.5. Mutual aid agreement for closest responder.**

33 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 26-8a-402, an emergency medical service
34 provider may respond to a request for service that originates outside of the provider's geographic
35 service area if the emergency medical service provider has entered into an agreement, pursuant to
36 Subsection (2), with the licensed provider for the geographic service area in which the call
37 originated.

38 (2) (a) Emergency medical service providers shall enter into a mutual aid agreement under
39 this section with emergency medical service providers of contiguous geographic service areas if:

40 (i) the emergency medical service providers' geographic service area include a county of
41 the first class or a city or town located within a county of the first class; and

42 (ii) the emergency medical service providers entering into the mutual aid agreement are
43 licensed as first responders.

44 (b) The agreement required by Subsection (2)(a) shall:

45 (i) provide for improved emergency medical services through a system which sends the
46 closest emergency medical service provider, regardless of the geographic service area of that
47 provider, to the location of the request for emergency medical services;

48 (ii) facilitate communication between providers in different geographic service areas, to
49 the extent possible with available funding and technology; and

50 (iii) contain other provisions necessary to carry out the requirements of Subsection
51 (2)(b)(i).

52 (3) Mutual aid agreements entered into under the provisions of this section are not subject
53 to:

54 (a) Subsections 26-8a-402(4)(a) and (d);

55 (b) Subsections 26-8a-402(5)(b) and (c); and

56 (c) Subsections 26-8a-402(6)(b) and (c).

Legislative Review Note
as of 1-28-02 1:49 PM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel