

By: Representative Yates

To: Accountability,  
Efficiency, Transparency

HOUSE BILL NO. 1644

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CONTRACTS BETWEEN A COUNTY OR  
 2 MUNICIPALITY AND A PRIVATE PROVIDER OF AMBULANCE SERVICES FOR THE  
 3 CONTRACTING PROVIDER TO BE THE EXCLUSIVE PROVIDER OF AMBULANCE  
 4 SERVICES IN THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY MUST CONTAIN A PROVISION  
 5 THAT REQUIRES THE CONTRACTING PROVIDER TO ALLOW OTHER AMBULANCE  
 6 SERVICE PROVIDERS TO RESPOND TO CALLS AND PROVIDE SERVICE IN THE  
 7 COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY DURING TIMES AND CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THE  
 8 CONTRACTING PROVIDER IS EXPERIENCING SHORTAGES OF EQUIPMENT OR  
 9 PERSONNEL THAT CAUSE A DELAY IN RESPONDING TO CALLS FOR SERVICE;  
 10 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any contract between the board of  
 13 supervisors of a county or the governing authorities of a  
 14 municipality and a private provider of ambulance services for the  
 15 contracting provider to be the exclusive provider of ambulance  
 16 services in the county or municipality, as the case may be, must  
 17 contain a provision that requires the contracting provider to  
 18 allow other ambulance service providers to respond to calls and  
 19 provide service in the county or municipality, as the case may be,  
 20 during times and circumstances when the contracting provider is  
 21 experiencing shortages of equipment or personnel that cause a  
 22 delay in responding to calls for service. The requirements of



23 this section shall also apply to contracts between emergency  
24 medical service districts created under Section 41-59-51 and  
25 private providers of ambulance services.

26 (2) This section shall apply to all contracts described in  
27 subsection (1) of this section that are entered into or renewed on  
28 or after July 1, 2024.

29 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
30 and after July 1, 2024.

