

By: Senator(s) Hill

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2824

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 17-25-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROHIBIT AMBULANCE SERVICES FROM ENTERING INTO EXCLUSIVITY
3 CONTRACTS FOR NONEMERGENCY TRANSFERS; TO REQUIRE THAT IN
4 NONEMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION SITUATIONS INVOLVING A
5 COUNTY-TO-COUNTY OR COUNTY TO ANOTHER STATE TRANSFER, THE PATIENT
6 OR THE PATIENT'S FAMILY WILL DECIDE WHICH AMBULANCE SERVICE
7 PROVIDER PERFORMS THE TRANSFER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 17-25-41, Mississippi Code of 1972,
10 is amended as follows:

11 17-25-41. (1) Any contract between the board of supervisors
12 of a county or the governing authorities of a municipality and a
13 private provider of ambulance services for the contracting
14 provider to be the exclusive provider of ambulance services in the
15 county or municipality, as the case may be, must contain a
16 provision that requires the contracting provider to have a mutual
17 aid agreement with other ambulance service providers to respond to
18 911 and natural disaster calls and provide service in the county
19 or municipality, as the case may be, during times and
20 circumstances when the contracting provider is experiencing



21 shortages of equipment or personnel that cause a delay in
22 responding to calls for service. The requirements of this section
23 shall also apply to contracts between emergency medical service
24 districts created under Section 41-59-51 and private providers of
25 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 (3) Any contract between a hospital or health care facility
30 and a private provider of ambulance services that requires
31 transportation services to exclusively transport patients to a
32 certain hospital or health care facility during nonemergency
33 transport is prohibited.

34 (4) When ambulance services are performing a nonemergency
35 transport from one county to another county, or from a hospital to
36 another county or state, the decision of which ambulance service
37 the patient will be transported by shall be left to the discretion
38 of the patient or the patient's family.

39 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2025.

