

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 222

**SESSION:** 2008 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Staffing of Basic Life Support Ambulances

**Date:** April 28, 2008

**Analyst:** Emily Cleveland, 651.296.5808

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd](http://www.house.mn/hrd).

---

## Overview

This act permits staffing variations for ambulance services located in rural communities. It permits ambulance services in rural communities to staff ambulances with first responders, as well as EMTs or paramedics under certain conditions.

- 1**        **Basic life support.** Amends § 144E.101, subd. 6. Modifies the number of EMTs that must staff basic life support ambulances from one to two, unless certain exceptions apply.

Modifies the variance provision by stating that when a variance is granted, a basic life support ambulance may be staffed by one EMT and one first responder, provided the first responder is the driver.

Provides that ambulance services located in rural areas may staff ambulances, in certain circumstances, with one EMT and one registered first responder. Requires that in these cases, the EMT must accompany the patient and provide the required level of service.

- 2**        **Advanced life support.** Amends § 144E.101, subd. 7. Removes the requirement that a vehicle staffed and equipped for basic life support may not be marked as an advanced life support vehicle.

Permits the board to grant a variance for staff requirements for advanced life support ambulances, and when a variance is granted, such an ambulance may be staffed by a first responder driver and a paramedic. States that a variance applies until the ambulance service's license is renewed. States that this provision applies to ambulance services outside the metropolitan counties, certain cities, and in communities of less than 1,000

people.

Provides that ambulance services located in rural areas may staff ambulances with one registered first responder driver, and an EMT or paramedic in certain circumstances.