

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1597**

Introduced by

Representative Heinert

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an exemption; and to provide for the distribution of state financial  
2 assistance to eligible ambulance service operations.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION - AMBULANCE SERVICE OPERATION FUNDING**

5 **DISTRIBUTION.** Notwithstanding section 23-46-04 relating to state financial assistance for  
6 emergency medical services, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30,  
7 2027, the department of health and human services, in consultation with the emergency  
8 medical services advisory council, shall provide state financial assistance to each eligible  
9 ambulance service operation pursuant to the following calculation:

- 10 1. The minimum reasonable budget for each operation must be determined by adding  
11 the product of the operation's average number of runs for the two most recent  
12 calendar years multiplied by the cost of a run. The cost of a run for this biennium is  
13 two thousand twenty-three dollars. If the average runs multiplied by the cost of a run  
14 equals less than one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, the minimum reasonable  
15 budget for that ambulance service is one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars.
- 16 2. The operation's grant amount must be determined by deducting the following amounts  
17 from the operation's budget calculated under subsection 1:
- 18 a. The product of the operation's average number of runs for the two most recent  
19 calendar years multiplied by the reimbursement for a run. The reimbursement for  
20 a run is seven hundred ninety-five dollars; and
- 21 b. The product of the property tax valuation of the operation's response area for the  
22 most recent taxable year multiplied by five mills. The property tax valuation of the  
23 operation's response area must be provided by the county auditor annually no  
24 later than July thirty-first. If the response area covers multiple counties, the

- 1                    county auditor with the most response area is responsible for coordinating with  
2                    the other county auditors.
- 3            3.    The maximum total grant calculation for each operation, after accounting for the  
4                    deductions in subsection 2, may not exceed two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars.
- 5            4.    The department shall distribute a prorated share of the operation's calculated grant  
6                    amount if legislative appropriations for state financial assistance for emergency  
7                    medical services is not sufficient to provide full grant funding calculated under this  
8                    section.
- 9            5.    An operation is eligible to receive funding under this section if the operation is owned  
10                   and operated by a city or county, or the operation is within the jurisdiction of a rural  
11                   ambulance service district. An operation is not eligible to receive funding under this  
12                   section if the operation is located within fifteen miles from another operation and does  
13                   less than fifty runs per year.
- 14           6.    A response area acquired after April 1, 2024, due to an adjacent ambulance service  
15                   closure is not calculated in the operations response area for the purpose of the grant  
16                   calculation.