

SB 212 Rural Ambulance Service

Proponent Written Only  
February 14, 2023

Stan Bryant  
Burdett, Kansas

Honorable Chair Mc Ginn & Senate Local Government Committee Members:

I would like to give some input concerning the rural EMS bill that Alicia Straub is sponsoring. Once our Burdett EMS unit joined the Larned unit to form a Pawnee County service it has caused problems. Several volunteers quit when they found out they had to spend time on duty at the Larned EMS service. Another problem that concerns me as pastor of Rozel Christian Fellowship is it keeps one of our members from attending church regularly because he lives in Burdett. When on standby he has to be within 5 minutes of the Burdett station and Rozel is 8 minutes away. Burdett has a hard time filling weekend staff so he volunteers to keep from losing our Burdett station. If we lose the Burdett station, Larned is 23 miles away and our local response times will significantly increase. Our local service would actually benefit by increasing the time to get to the Burdett station to 10 minutes.

We should not have to follow the same rules as the larger cities. Our response times will actually increase if we can't find enough local volunteers to comply with all of the big city rules and regulations. There was a campaign to hold a new class, but only one signed up. I think a major factor for low turnout is the additional big city rules that are required. Please consider raising the time to get to the station to at least 12 minutes. I had a heart attack scare a few years ago and a Rozel volunteer was at my rural Burdett home in less than 5 minutes, because he was checking cattle close by. The way the rules are now no one from Rozel can become an EMT because they cannot get to Burdett in 5 minutes.

**The needs of rural Kansas are different than in the populated cities of Kansas. Please keep this in mind for all of the bills you pass.**

Stan Bryant  
Burdett, Kansas  
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Trustee of Browns Grove Township  
Pawnee County Vice Chair GOP