

SB 212 – EMS Ambulance Operation

Proponent Written Only

Troy Armstrong, EMT-P Director of Emergency Medical Services, Anderson County EMS

Honorable Chair Mc Ginn & Senate Local Government Committee Members:

I am emailing you regarding SB212, permitting an ambulance to operate with one emergency medical service provider in rural counties.

I am the Director of Emergency Medical Services for Anderson County, Kansas. I know that there are varying points of views regarding this proposed bill statewide. I'd like to share with you my support for the bill.

Both Anderson County (Population-7,836) and Woodson County (Population-3,115), are rural Counties within our great state that share the struggles of staffing certified Emergency Medical Services providers.

Currently Anderson County operates three Advanced Life Support capable Ambulances, although only staff two of them on a 24/7/365 basis. This bill would allow us to operate a single EMS provider on our third Ambulance during times of high call volume or during mass casualty incident situations. Depending on the location within our County, the nearest mutual aid Ambulance would be a minimum average of twenty minutes. This bill would allow us to transport a person potentially suffering an emergent condition, with a single EMS provider, versus having a delayed transport awaiting a mutual aid Ambulance.

I began my career in the State of Iowa which allows for a similar operation of EMS, with a single certified provider on the Ambulance.

Though, I share the same concerns with other EMS professionals across the state regarding the potential of governing bodies not having minimum staffing of two EMS providers if it's not outlined in statute. Although, I do have concerns of long lasting burnout of EMS providers within Counties and the ability of this bill to potentially lessen their burdens.

If there is any information I can provider, or you have further inquiry please don't hessite to reach out to me.

Respectfully,

T. ARMSTRONG

Troy Armstrong, EMT-P

Director of Emergency Medical Services, Anderson County EMS

