

GROUND AMBULANCE ASSESSMENT REVENUE FUND

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the _____ Board of County Commissioners provide funding for local emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly in the 2017 legislative session will entertain legislation that would create a Ground Ambulance Assessment Revenue Fund to be used to improve Medicaid reimbursement to Tennessee EMS systems and thereby help offset the increasing cost of pre-hospital ground ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, reimbursement for ground ambulance transportation through TennCare (Medicaid) do not recognize the actual cost incurred by ground ambulance providers for the provision of emergency medical services – typically 60% - 80% of the actual cost to ground ambulance providers; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and counties are required to use alternative funding sources to supplant the costs incurred for the provision of EMS services to Medicaid recipients; and

WHEREAS, Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-140-301 - Emergency Medical Services Act of 1983 established the Division of EMS under the TN Department of Health, and empowers counties the ability to provide vital life-saving emergency medical services to its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the increasing demand for services of EMS systems throughout Tennessee along with the cost associated with providing adequate and timely emergency medical services continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, the profession of Emergency Medical Technicians is ever-changing when considering skill, training and knowledge, and the cost to employ and retain such personnel, provide and maintain life-saving tools for these professionals continues to rise at an alarming rate and has therefore placed severe funding burden on counties throughout Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would provide a much needed offsetting revenue source without creating a fiscal burden upon the State of Tennessee by providing the necessary state funds in order to receive federal matching funds through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this legislation is to close the gap of the ground ambulance transport costs and the current reimbursement for services from TennCare; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the _____ Board of County Commissioners support the proposed legislation that will decrease the burden on counties in their effort to provide life-saving pre-hospital care for their citizens and visitors.