



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-032, **Version:** 1

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**FROM:** Denise Pomeroy, Health Services Director

**DATE:** January 24, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Rescind the "Interim Inter-Facility Transfer Operating Procedures for Lake County Ground Ambulance Providers". Due to changes which occurred in 2016, the interim procedure presently serves no useful purpose and will be of no assistance in the future.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On February 4, 2014, the Lake County Board of Supervisors approved the "Interim Inter-Facility Transfer Operating Procedures for Lake County Ground Ambulance Providers."

This document was developed by Lake County Health Services Department through a collaborative process with the local hospitals, ambulance providers and the transfer center that was utilized by both hospitals at that time.

Though not enforceable or binding, the document was put forth to facilitate operational coordination among the stakeholders, and Lake County Health Services Department facilitated the development of the procedure. Under the current ambulance ordinance, the county does not have regulatory authority over ambulances that perform inter-facility transfers between health facilities.

Although not fully implemented in all respects, this document has provided a point-of-reference since its approval.

Starting in mid-2016, some organizational changes rendered this interim operating procedure much less relevant. In particular, one local hospital exercised its option to arrange for a separate inter-facility transfer center and private inter-facility ambulance provider.

More recently, the Lake County Fire Chief's Association developed a new "Standard Operating Procedure" (attached) that takes into account the current inter-facility ambulance structural arrangements as they apply to both local hospitals. This document was discussed at the December 21, 2016 meeting of the Emergency Medical Care Committee. Although the procedure may require further discussion among the stakeholders, there was a commitment to move forward with additional meetings to refine and optimize procedures.

When finalized, these operating procedures developed by the Fire Chiefs' Association will provide a current and effective means of addressing inter-facility ambulance-related events and concerns as they relate to the County, which will be superior to the interim procedure previously prepared by Health Services.

Given the above changes, which occurred in 2016, the interim procedure presently serves no useful purpose and will be of no assistance in the future.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** X\_\_ None \_\_Budgeted \_\_Non-Budgeted

Estimated Cost:

Amount Budgeted:

Additional Requested:

Annual Cost (if planned for future years):

**FISCAL IMPACT (Narrative):** N/A

**STAFFING IMPACT (if applicable):** N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Rescind the "Interim Inter-Facility Transfer Operating Procedures for Lake County Ground Ambulance Providers". Due to changes which occurred in 2016, the interim procedure presently serves no useful purpose and will be of no assistance in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.