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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE OF STATE (



SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE **REGULAR SESSION, 2008**

ENROLLED

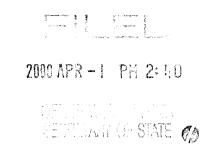
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 224

(Senator Kessler, original sponsor)

[Passed March 8, 2008; in effect ninety days from passage.]



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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 224

(By Senators Tomblin, Mr. President, and Caruth, By Request of the Executive)

[Passed March 8, 2008; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to authorize the county commission of Jefferson County to create a joint emergency services agency; legislative findings; and management by a joint emergency services board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

JEFFERSON COUNTY JOINT EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCY.

§1. Legislative findings.

- 1 (a) The Legislature finds that:
- 2 (1) Jefferson County has a demonstrated population
- 3 growth rate history;
- 4 (2) Small separate volunteer emergency services
- 5 agencies cannot adequately serve the people of
- 6 Jefferson County;
- 7 (3) The municipalities, communities and the county
- 8 cannot separately finance individual volunteer
- 9 emergency services agencies;
- 10 (4) Jefferson County is in a unique position that it has
- the only national historical park in the state which
- 12 attracts thousands of visitors annually;
- 13 (5) The national historical park with its historical
- buildings and visitors places an undue burden on the
- 15 small individual emergency services agencies in
- 16 Jefferson County; and
- 17 (6) An agency that combines joint emergency services
- 18 would enhance Jefferson County's ability to serve its
- 19 people.
- 20 (b) Therefore, the Legislature declares that since
- 21 Jefferson County is in a unique situation, it is in the
- 22 public interest that the county commission of Jefferson
- 23 County be authorized to create a joint emergency
- 24 services agency.
- §2. Authorizing creation of the Jefferson County Joint Emergency Services Agency.

- 1 (a) In lieu of creating both an emergency ambulance
- 2 service authority and a separate county fire association
- 3 or county fire board, the county commission of
- 4 Jefferson County may enact an ordinance creating a
- 5 combined joint emergency services agency to provide
- 6 emergency services and emergency response services.
- 7 (b) The agency shall possess all of the rights and
- 8 responsibilities conferred upon emergency ambulance
- 9 service authorities, county fire associations and county
- 10 fire boards that are not otherwise inconsistent with
- 11 state law and local ordinance.

§3. Joint Emergency Services Board.

- 1 (a) By ordinance, the county commission of Jefferson
- 2 County may create a Joint Emergency Services Board
- 3 to oversee the management and control of the agency.
- 4 (b) The board shall consist of at least the following
- 5 individuals who shall be appointed by the county
- 6 commission:
- 7 (1) A representative from an emergency medical
- 8 service;
- 9 (2) A representative from a fire protection service; and
- 10 (3) A citizen member who is not employed with an
- 11 emergency medical service, a fire protection service or
- 12 the county commission.
- 13 (c) All board members shall be residents of Jefferson
- 14 County.
- 15 (d) The board members shall serve for staggered terms

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- of three years and are limited to two consecutive terms.
- 17 In the event of a vacancy, a successor shall be
- 18 appointed from the same service area as the unexpired
- 19 representative's term. Members shall continue to serve
- 20 until their successors have been appointed.
- 21 (e) A majority of the members of the board constitutes
- 22 a quorum.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
Chairman Senate Committee
Chairman House Committee
Originated in the Senate.
In effect ninety days from passage. **Clerk of the Senate**
Clerk of the House of Delegates
Presidentlof the Senate
Speaker House of Delegates
The within Us appended this the Day of Appl

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

MAR 2 5 2008

Time