

## CHAPTER 2024-289

### House Bill No. 1023

An act relating to St. Lucie County; providing an exception to general law; providing definitions; limiting compensation to a health care provider that provides medical services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County detention center if the provider does not have a contract with the county to provide such services; limiting compensation to an entity that provides emergency medical transportation services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County detention center if the entity does not have a contract with the county to provide such services; providing applicability; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, this act and all rules adopted pursuant to this act apply to the area located within St. Lucie County.

(2) As used in this act, the term:

(a) “Air ambulance” means a fixed-wing or rotary-wing aircraft used for, or intended to be used for, air transportation of sick or injured persons requiring or likely to require medical attention during transport.

(b) “Ambulance” or “emergency medical services vehicle” means a privately or publicly owned vehicle or vessel that is designed, constructed, reconstructed, maintained, equipped, or operated for, and is used for, or intended to be used for, land or water transportation of sick or injured persons requiring or likely to require medical attention during transport.

(c) “Emergency medical transportation services” includes, but is not limited to, services rendered by means of an ambulance, emergency medical services vehicle, or air ambulance.

(d) “Health care provider” means:

1. A hospital licensed under chapter 395, Florida Statutes.
2. A physician or physician assistant licensed under chapter 458, Florida Statutes.
3. An osteopathic physician or physician assistant licensed under chapter 459, Florida Statutes.
4. A podiatric physician licensed under chapter 461, Florida Statutes.
5. A health maintenance organization certificated under part I of chapter 641, Florida Statutes.

6. An ambulatory surgical center licensed under chapter 395, Florida Statutes.

7. An other medical facility as defined in paragraph (e).

8. A professional association, partnership, corporation, joint venture, or other association composed of the persons provided in subparagraphs 2., 3., and 4. for professional activity.

(e) “Other medical facility” means a facility the primary purpose of which is to provide human medical diagnostic services or a facility providing nonsurgical human medical treatment, to which facility the patient is admitted and from which facility the patient is discharged within the same working day, and which facility is not part of a hospital. However, a facility existing for the primary purpose of performing terminations of pregnancy or an office maintained by a physician or dentist for the practice of medicine may not be construed to be an “other medical facility.”

(3) Compensation to a health care provider to provide medical services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County detention center may not exceed 110 percent of the Medicare allowable rate if the health care provider does not have a contract with St. Lucie County to provide inmate medical services. However, compensation to a health care provider may not exceed 125 percent of the Medicare allowable rate if:

(a) The health care provider does not have a contract with St. Lucie County to provide inmate medical services; and

(b) The health care provider reported a negative operating margin for the previous year to the Agency for Health Care Administration through hospital-audited financial data.

(4) Compensation to an entity to provide emergency medical transportation services for an inmate housed in a St. Lucie County detention center may not exceed 110 percent of the Medicare allowable rate if the entity does not have a contract with St. Lucie County to provide inmate emergency medical transportation services.

(5) This act does not apply to charges for medical services provided at a hospital operated by St. Lucie County.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 16, 2024.