23102677D **SENATE BILL NO. 1246** 1 2 3 4 5 Senate Amendments in [] - January 18, 2023 Prefiled January 10, 2023 A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-955 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency medical services agencies; ordinances or resolutions; designation as emergency response agencies. 6 Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Obenshain 7 8 Referred to Committee on Local Government 9 10 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 1. That § 15.2-955 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: 11 § 15.2-955. Approval by local governing body for the establishment of volunteer emergency 12 13 medical services agencies and firefighting organizations. A. No volunteer emergency medical services agency or volunteer firefighting organization shall be 14 established in any locality on or after July 1, 1984, without the prior approval by ordinance or 15 16 resolution of the governing body. Such ordinance or resolution shall specify the geographic boundaries

of the agency's primary service area within the locality.

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B. Each locality shall [seek to seek to] ensure that *essential* emergency medical services are maintained throughout the entire locality.

C. An emergency medical services agency that responds to medical emergencies for its primary service area as defined by the local emergency medical response plan shall be a designated emergency response agency and recognized as an integral and essential part of the official public safety program of the county, city, or town with responsibility for providing emergency medical response.