

**Senate File 318 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 318

BY DANIELSON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to operations of townships by requiring that  
2 townships provide emergency medical service, modifying  
3 provisions related to township cemeteries, and including  
4 applicability provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 359.17, subsection 2, Code 2017, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. A board of township trustees shall give prior notice of  
4 a meeting to discuss, deliberate, or act upon a matter relating  
5 to the budget or a tax levy of the township or relating to  
6 the trustees' duty to provide fire protection service and,  
7 ~~if provided,~~ emergency medical service, pursuant to section  
8 359.42. The trustees shall give notice of such meeting at  
9 least twenty-four hours preceding the commencement of the  
10 meeting. The notice shall state the time, date, and place  
11 of the meeting and the proposed agenda. The notice shall be  
12 provided to the county auditor who shall post the notice in an  
13 area of the courthouse where notices to the public are commonly  
14 posted.

15 Sec. 2. Section 359.31, Code 2017, is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 **359.31 Power and control.**

18 ~~They~~ The board of township trustees shall control any such  
19 cemeteries, or appoint trustees for the same, or sell the same  
20 to any private corporation for cemetery purposes. The board of  
21 township trustees may contract with a public or private agency  
22 under chapter 28E or to establish a joint cemetery board under  
23 section 359.36 for the purposes of improving, maintaining, and  
24 supporting township cemeteries.

25 Sec. 3. Section 359.42, Code 2017, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 **359.42 Township fire protection service, emergency warning**  
28 **system, and emergency medical service.**

29 1. Except as otherwise provided in [section 331.385](#), the  
30 trustees of each township shall provide ~~fire~~ the following  
31 services for the township:

32 a. ~~Fire~~ Fire protection service ~~for the township,~~ exclusive of  
33 any part of the township within a benefited fire district ~~and~~  
34 ~~may provide emergency medical service.~~

35 b. Emergency medical service.



1           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2       This bill requires that a township provide emergency medical  
3 service within the township. Under current law, a township is  
4 required to provide fire protection service and is authorized,  
5 but not required, to provide emergency medical service. The  
6 bill also makes corresponding changes to provisions of law  
7 governing the township budgeting process.

8       The bill specifies that each board of township trustees is  
9 authorized to contract with a public or private agency under  
10 Code chapter 28E (joint exercise of governmental powers) or to  
11 establish a joint cemetery board with a city council under Code  
12 section 359.36 for the purpose of improving, maintaining, and  
13 supporting township cemeteries.

14       The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
15 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,  
16 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from  
17 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of  
18 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,  
19 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state  
20 mandate included in the bill.

21       The bill may cause a state agency or political subdivision to  
22 offer for sale to the public a service or product that competes  
23 with private enterprise.

24       The bill applies to fiscal years beginning on or after July  
25 1, 2018.