



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 10779, **Version:** 1

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### **TITLE**

Interlocal Agreement for Mutual Aid With Citrus County for Fire and Rescue Services

### **BRIEF OVERVIEW**

The attached proposed mutual aid agreement between Hernando County and Citrus County will allow for the sharing of fire and emergency services equipment and staffing along a defined area along the borders of Hernando and Citrus Counties, without delay and based on the closest available unit's location. Hernando County Fire and Emergency Services (HCFES) has successfully implemented similar mutual aid agreements with Sumter County, Pasco County and the City of Brooksville.

The mutual aid concept is based on a theory of placing the preservation of life and property, over concerns related to political and jurisdictional boundaries. While the spirit of cooperation has always been present among fire departments, the drive to "pull-the-trigger" on seamless coverage plans has become a matter of economic efficiency, in addition to the longstanding motivations of improving safety, operational capabilities and possible improved ISO (Insurance Services Office) ratings.

If approved, the proposed agreement will authorize HCFES and Citrus County Fire Rescue (CCFR) units (when available and closer) to cross county lines and respond several miles into their neighboring county to provide assistance. Because assistance will be mutually provided and received, there will not be a payment or billing process.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

No financial impact.

### **LEGAL NOTE**

The Board is authorized to take the recommended action pursuant to Chapter 125, Florida Statutes.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on the attached Interlocal Agreement for Fire Rescue Mutual Aid with Citrus County.