

Whereas, According to FDNY, when an individual experiences a medical emergency and requires an EMS ambulance, the current billing rate is \$900 for a BLS ambulance and \$1,525 for an ALS ambulance; and

Whereas, According to the FDNY, these rates are expected to increase in 2023 to \$1,385 for a BLS ambulance and \$1,680 for an ALS ambulance; and

Whereas, In 2020, the 116th Congress passed the *No Surprises Act*, which was signed into law on December 27, 2020 by then President Trump and subsequently went into effect on January 1, 2022; and

Whereas, The *No Surprises Act* established federal protections against surprise medical bills that may arise when insured individuals inadvertently receive care from out-of-network hospitals, doctors, and/or other providers who they did not select; and

Whereas, The *No Surprises Act* prohibits doctors, hospitals, and other covered providers from billing patients more than the in-network cost sharing amount for surprise medical bills; and Whereas, However, the *No Surprises Act* does not include ground ambulance services; and

Whereas, Ambulance services can be extremely costly, especially for those individuals that live paycheck to paycheck and cannot afford additional medical costs; and

Whereas, The City and State should offer expansive medical protections for all New Yorkers that include ambulance costs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation that would expand the federal *No Surprises Act* by including ambulance transportation costs.

WJH
LS 12277
5/8/23