

Initiative petition number: IP-2016-001

Initiative petition title: An initiative to amend the *Fire and Police Services Collective Bargaining Act*

Initiative petition summary:

The draft Bill proposes to amend the *Fire and Police Services Collective Bargaining Act* (the Act) to give ambulance paramedics the same collective bargaining rights as firefighters and police officers. The draft Bill would retitle the Act to the *Ambulance, Fire and Police Services Collective Bargaining Act*, change the definition of “employer” under the Act to include the employer of members of a paramedics’ union, and define “paramedics’ union” as a bargaining unit in which the majority of employees are engaged in ambulance paramedic duties. The draft Bill would also remove the right of ambulance paramedics to strike and the right of their employer to lockout during an impasse in collective bargaining, and would require resolution of the impasse through binding arbitration. Consequently, the draft Bill would remove the paramedics’ union as a bargaining unit under the *Health Authorities Act*.