ORDINANCE NO. _________

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND LITTLE ROCK, ARK., REV. CODE § 5-58 (c) (1988) TO PERMIT THE METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE A BASIC LIFE SUPPORT RESPONSE FOR NON-LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City created the Little Rock, Ark., Emergency Medical Health Care Facilities Board pursuant to Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 14,062 (June 16, 1981), to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency Medical Services within its jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, this Facilities Board is also known as the Little Rock Ambulance Authority, and does business in the cities of Little Rock, North Little Rock, Cabot, Conway, and various counties within the Central Arkansas area under the business name Metropolitan Emergency Medical Services, and is commonly referred to as MEMS; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,251 (June 7, 2016) the Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, permitted an amendment to Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 5-58 (1988) (“LRC § ___”) to permit some Basic Life Support (BLS) Services on non-life threatening emergencies pursuant to a programmed monitored by the Arkansas Department of Health; and,

WHEREAS, after careful review this pilot program has been deemed successful and appropriate, and the Arkansas Department of Health is willing to authorize MEMS to conduct business with multiple levels of care to be provided in appropriate circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, the MEMS Board of Directors has requested that the previous amendment to LRC § 5-58 be made permanent; and,

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Emergency Physicians Foundation approves of this modification and believes it is appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. LRC § 5-58 (c) is hereby permanently amended to read as follows:

Basic Life Support—Non-Life Threatening Emergencies.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, the ambulance authority may provide for BLS responses to non-life threatening emergencies as permitted by the Arkansas Department of Health, and as consistent with this Chapter, and as approved by the Arkansas Emergency Physicians Foundation (AEPF)
Section 2. **Severability.** In the event any title, subtitle, section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, subparagraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or work of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of this ordinance.

Section 3. **Repealer.** All ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency including, but not limited to, Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,251 (June 7, 2016) codified as LRC § 5-58 (c) (1988).

Section 5. **Emergency Clause.** The ability to efficiently and effective provide emergency medical health services to all citizens is essential to the public health, safety, and welfare, and the ability to meet the actual needs of every patient with the appropriate level of care, while still maintaining some control over costs and resources, makes it possible to maintain such an important public service; this ordinance permits the Little Rock Ambulance Authority to permit some modification of the current tiers of service for care if such modification is appropriate and approved by the Arkansas Department of Health, and the Arkansas Emergency Physicians Foundation; an emergency, therefore, is declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage.

PASSED: June 6 2017

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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Susan Langley, City Clerk        Mark Stodola, Mayor

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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