

Here's what hired petition-gatherers are distributing — chock full of inaccuracies:

False. No ambulance fees for Montgomery County residents.

Take Action...Make Your Voice Heard

If you agree that we should say “no” to ambulance fees, there are many ways you can make your voice heard.

- Sign a petition to put this issue on the November 2012 ballot so voters can decide this critical public safety issue. Petitions can be downloaded at www.stopambulancefee.org.
- Tell your friends and neighbors about this issue - and encourage them to get engaged.
- Notify your community association - and ask the association to encourage it's members to get involved.
- Collect signatures yourself. The petition is available at www.stopambulancefee.org. Please adhere to all the directions on the form in collecting signatures.
- Educate yourself and others. Learn more at www.stopambulancefee.org.

Stop Ambulance Fees in Montgomery County!!!

On May 28, 2012, the County Executive signed legislation to change ambulance fees in Montgomery County

**This is after VOTERS REJECTED
ambulance fees in the November
2010 election**

We Need **Your Help** in Saying “No”
Ambulance Fees

Learn More...Take Action Now!

**False. No fee for
County residents.**

Ambulance Fees Are Coming... Unless You Say "No"

Background

On May 28, County Executive signed Bill 17-12, which will charge ambulance fees in Montgomery County. The charges will range from \$300 to \$800 plus \$8.50 per mile (or more) if a patient is transported to the hospital.

What does the Bill Say?

The bill would add new Section 21-23A to the County Code, including the following subsection (b):

"The County must impose a **fee** for any emergency medical services transport provided in the County and, unless prohibited by other law, outside the County under a mutual aid agreement."

What Happens Next?

Unless voters reject ambulance fees on the November 2012 ballot, the County will begin charging for ambulance service on January 1, 2012.

But countless volunteers and others are working hard to gather signatures to put this issue on the November 2012 ballot. **That's why you need to act now!**

Why Say "No" to Ambulance Fees

Charging for Ambulance Service is Wrong

We believe it is **simply wrong** to charge anyone for such a basic public service as emergency transport to a hospital.

Residents Will Pay in Higher Premiums and Otherwise

While fee supporters promise County residents won't be charged ambulance fees, **County residents will face higher insurance premiums.** And while County residents won't be charged a fee, the bills to insurance companies will count against deductibles and caps.

Some People Won't Call 911 in an Emergency

Studies show charging ambulance fees will deter 911 calls. In Fairfax County, EMS calls dropped after such fees were imposed. **And non-County residents will be charged the full fee.** Learn more at www.stopambulancefee.org.

Insurance Rates Will Go Up

Health insurance rates will go up if the County begins charging ambulance fees. And increased rates will fall on those least able to afford them, including the poor, working class families and small business owners.

It is Wrong to Charge for Volunteer Service

Hundreds of volunteers provide free EMS service to County residents. It is wrong for the County to charge for something that volunteers do as a community service.

*Nearly every jurisdiction around Montgomery County does insurance reimbursement with **no** adverse effects.*

*False. Insurance companies **already** charge for this service as part of existing premiums. **No increases in any jurisdiction with ambulance reimbursement.***

False. Fairfax County EMS calls have increased since their reimbursement program started.

False. Insurance will pay for non-residents, with hardship waivers available for deductibles, copays, uninsured.

False. County residents pay nothing.

False. This excerpt "doctors" the actual language of the law by substituting word "fee" for "reimbursement".

The actual law also says "County residents will not pay any out-of-pocket expense".

Volunteer service is not "free". Montgomery County spends \$32 million a year to support volunteers, including cash payments and retirement benefits for volunteers.