

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Medical Response Unit Reimbursement Program and EMS Appropriations

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Overview

This bill establishes a medical response unit reimbursement pilot program and appropriates money from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust to that program and other emergency medical services programs.

Section

1 Medical Response Unit Reimbursement Pilot Program. (a) Requires the Department of Public Safety to work with the Minnesota Ambulance Association (MAA) to create a medical response unit reimbursement pilot program.

(b) Specifies that the Department of Public Safety, in consultation with the MAA, Minnesota Fire Chief's Association, Emergency Services Regulatory Board, and the Minnesota Council of Health plans, must:

- identify no more than five medical response units to participate in the program;
- outline criteria for reimbursement;
- determine reimbursement amounts for each unit; and
- collect data for a final report.

(c) Provides certain criteria for the medical response unit reimbursement pilot program including, but not limited to, the following:

- the program expires December 31, 2011, or when the appropriation is expended;
- the Department of Public Safety must report to the legislature by March 1, 2011, as to the effectiveness and value of the program
- individual entities licensed to provide ambulance services are not eligible for participation in the program;

- if a participating medical response unit withdraws from the program, the Department of Public Safety may select another similarly operating unit to complete the program; and
- the Department of Public Safety and the other organizations involved have no ongoing responsibility to reimburse medical response units beyond this pilot program.

2 Appropriations to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board; Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. Provides appropriations for fiscal year 2010 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust to a variety of EMS programs.

Subd. 1. Regional medical services program. Transfers \$400,000 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust in fiscal year 2010 to the emergency medical services system fund and appropriates that amount to the Emergency Services Regulatory Board for regional emergency medical services programs. Requires that this appropriation is distributed equally among the eight regions.

Subd. 2. Comprehensive advanced life-support educations (CALs) program. Appropriates \$100,000 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust in fiscal year 2010 to the Emergency Services Regulatory Board for the CALs program.

Subd. 3. Emergency Medical Services for children (EMS-C) program. Appropriates \$25,000 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust in fiscal year 2010 to the Emergency Services Regulatory Board for the EMS-C program.

Subd. 4. Veterans paramedic apprenticeship program. Appropriates \$200,000 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust in fiscal year 2010 to the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs for a grant to the MAA for a veterans paramedic apprenticeship program.

Subd. 5. Medical response unit reimbursement pilot program. Appropriates \$250,000 from the Cooper/Sams volunteer ambulance trust in fiscal year 2010 to the Department of Public Safety for the medical response unit reimbursement program created under section 1. Provides that \$75,000 of this amount is for administrative costs to the department and \$175,000 if reimbursement to medical response units under the program.