

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: MA Payment Rate for Ambulance Services; EMS Regulatory Board Appropriations

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Overview

This bill increases medical assistance (MA) payment rates for certain ambulance services by five percent. The bill also makes appropriations to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board.

Section

- 1** **Payment for ambulance services.** Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 17a. Effective July 1, 2016, increases MA payment rates for ambulance services by five percent, for ambulance service providers that: (1) have a base of operations located outside the seven-county metropolitan area, and outside Duluth, Mankato, Moorhead, St. Cloud, and Rochester; or (2) have a base of operations located within a municipality with population of less than 1,000. Requires capitation payments to managed care and county-based purchasing plans for ambulance services provided on or after January 1, 2017, to be adjusted to reflect the rate increase.
- 2** **Appropriation.** Appropriates \$70,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$55,000 in fiscal year 2017 from the general fund to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board for the following:
 - (1) \$34,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$34,000 in fiscal year 2017 for annual support, maintenance, and hosting of the comprehensive electronic licensing and agency operations software solution;

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(2) \$21,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$21,000 in fiscal year 2017 for annual support, maintenance, and housing of the MNSTAR pre-hospital patient care report database; and

(3) \$15,000 in fiscal year 2016 is for the purchase of handheld radios for field staff to meet board responsibilities for emergency communications during a regional or statewide emergency.

Provides an immediate effective date.