

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: HB 452 (House PCS6237-RM-17)

SHORT TITLE: Emergency Medical Services Act Update-AB

SPONSOR(S): Representative Wright

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>	<u>FY 2003-04</u>	<u>FY 2004-05</u>	<u>FY 2005-06</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES					
POSITIONS:					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:					
Department of Health and Human Services Division of Facility Services					
EFFECTIVE DATE: When it becomes law					

BILL SUMMARY: The proposed legislation updates the Emergency Medical Services Act by amending GS Chapter 143, Article 56, the Emergency Medical Services Act of 1973. Expands scope of activities of statewide Emergency Medical Services System to include injury prevention initiatives and wellness initiatives within the community and the public health system. Authorizes NC Medical Care Commission to adopt rules for emergency medical services (EMS) that are required for federal grants-in-aid and licensure. Requires Commission to adopt rules (1) regarding the credentialing of EMS agencies, personnel, and educational institutions; (2) regarding the credentialing of trauma centers; (3) regarding EMS data collection; (4) defining the scope of practice and practice settings of credentialed EMS personnel; (5) establishing standards for EMS vehicles and equipment and a statewide EMS communications system; (6) regarding the education and credentialing of persons trained to administer lifesaving treatment to persons who suffer severe adverse reactions to insect stings. Creates additional related duties for Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Rewrites GS 143-510, which created the NC Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council. Increases the size of the Council from 21 to 25 members. Specifies membership categories. Authorizes Council to advise Secretary on personnel and policy issues in the statewide EMS program. Requires each county to ensure that emergency medical services are provided in the county. Provides that medical records compiled or maintained by Department of Health and Human Services or EMS providers in connection with dispatch, response, treatment, or transport of patients or in connection with statewide trauma system may contain identifiable data allowing linkage to other health data systems for purposes of quality management, peer review, and public health initiatives. Makes such records confidential and specifies the only circumstances under which it may be released or made public. Makes financial information related to individual patients strictly confidential. Makes additional conforming and technical changes.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The proposed legislation updates existing law for Emergency Medical Services, but it does not significantly enlarge the responsibilities of the Department of Health and Human Services to the point where additional staff or funding is necessary. The proposed legislation does increase the membership of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council from 21 members to 25 members, but the increased membership is not expected to significantly increase the cost of operating the Council and any additional cost (up to \$200 per year) can be covered within the existing budget for the Office of Emergency Medical Services.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910

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DATE: April 16, 2001



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