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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 5399

04/18/2024 Authored by Backer, Torkelson, Wiens, Heintzeman, Perryman and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; providing onetime aid to certain licensed ambulance services;
1.3 requiring reports; appropriating money.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. EMERGENCY AID TO AMBULANCE SERVICES.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the definitions in Minnesota
1.7 Statutes, section 144E.001, apply and the terms in this subdivision have the meanings given.

1.8 (b) "EMS responses" means the number of responses reported to the board by a licensee
1.9 via the Minnesota state ambulance reporting system during calendar year 2023.

1.10 (c) "Response density" means the quotient of a licensee's EMS responses divided by the
1.11 square mileage of the licensee's primary service area.

1.12 Subd. 2. Excluded services. The board shall exclude EMS responses by specialized life
1.13 support as described under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.101, subdivision 9, when
1.14 calculating EMS responses, response density, or aid payments under this section.

1.15 Subd. 3. Multiple licenses. When a licensee, a licensee's parent company, a subsidiary
1.16 of the licensee, or a subsidiary of the licensee's parent company collectively hold one or
1.17 more licenses, the board must treat all such related licensees as a single licensee and the
1.18 sum of the square mileages of the primary service areas as a single primary service area for
1.19 the purposes of calculating EMS responses, response density, and aid payments under this
1.20 section.

2.1 Subd. 4. Eligible licensees; application process. (a) Only licensees with a response  
2.2 density of 30 responses per square mile or fewer are eligible for aid payments under this  
2.3 section.

2.4 (b) An eligible licensee may apply to the board, in the form and manner determined by  
2.5 the board, for aid payments under this section.

2.6 Subd. 5. Board calculations. (a) Prior to determining an aid payment amount for eligible  
2.7 applicants, the board must make the calculations in paragraphs (b) to (d).

2.8 (b) For each eligible applicant, the board shall determine the amount equal to dividing  
2.9 20 percent of the amount appropriated for aid payments under this section equally among  
2.10 all eligible applicants.

2.11 (c) For each eligible applicant, the board shall determine the amount equal to dividing  
2.12 40 percent of the amount appropriated for aid payments under this section by each eligible  
2.13 applicant's share of the total square mileage of all eligible applicants' primary service areas.  
2.14 For the purposes of both calculating the total square mileage of the primary service areas  
2.15 of all eligible applicants and for calculating each eligible applicant's share of the total, the  
2.16 square mileage of each eligible applicant's primary service area is capped at 1,200 square  
2.17 miles.

2.18 (d) For each eligible applicant, the board shall determine the amount equal to dividing  
2.19 40 percent of the amount appropriated for aid payments under this section by each eligible  
2.20 applicant's share of the total EMS response points awarded according to clauses (1) to (4):

2.21 (1) for EMS response 1 to EMS response 500, a licensee is awarded ten points for each  
2.22 EMS response;

2.23 (2) for EMS response 501 to EMS response 1,500, a licensee is awarded five points for  
2.24 each EMS response;

2.25 (3) for EMS response 1,501 to EMS response 2,500, a licensee is awarded zero points  
2.26 for each EMS response; and

2.27 (4) for EMS response 2,501 and each subsequent EMS response, a licensee's points are  
2.28 reduced by two points for each EMS response, except a licensee's total awarded points must  
2.29 not be reduced below zero.

2.30 Subd. 6. Aid amount. The board must make an aid payment to an eligible applicant in  
2.31 the amount equal to the sum of the amounts calculated in subdivision 5, paragraphs (b) to  
2.32 (d).

3.1 Subd. 7. **Eligible uses.** A recipient of an aid payment under this section must spend the  
3.2 money only on expenses incurred in the provision of licensed ambulance services within  
3.3 the recipient's primary service area or areas. A recipient of an aid payment under this section  
3.4 must spend the entire amount by December 31, 2027, or return to the board by March 1,  
3.5 2028, any amount not spent by December 31, 2027.

3.6 Subd. 8. **Payment date.** The executive director of the board must certify the aid payment  
3.7 amount for each eligible applicant and must make the full aid payment by December 31,  
3.8 2024.

3.9 Subd. 9. **Report.** By December 31, 2025, and by December 31 of each of the following  
3.10 two years, recipients of aid payments under this section must submit to the board a report  
3.11 summarizing how the recipient used the revenue from the aid payments. Beginning March  
3.12 31, 2026, and by March 31 of each of the following two years, the board must submit to  
3.13 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
3.14 over the board a report summarizing how the aid payments were utilized by aid recipients.

3.15 Subd. 10. **Appropriation.** \$120,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the  
3.16 general fund to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board for aid payments to  
3.17 eligible applicants under this section. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until  
3.18 June 30, 2028.