

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 574** HLS 18RS 894
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

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Dept./Agy.: LA Dept. of Health	Analyst: Zachary Rau
Subject: Creates the Board of Emergency Medical Services	

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Creates the Louisiana Board of Emergency Medical Services

Proposed law creates the LA Board of Emergency Medical Services (Board), places it within the LA Dept. of Health (LDH), and denotes it as the successor of the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. Proposed law further repeals present law creating the bureau and outlining its duties. Proposed law provides for board membership, appointment, terms, and compensation. Proposed law requires the board to establish and maintain a program for regulation and improvement of emergency medical services in LA and specifies required duties for the board. Proposed law enumerates the powers of the board. Proposed law replaces references of LDH regarding emergency medical services with references to the board.

EXPENDITURES	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may increase SGF expenditures for the newly-created LA Board of Emergency Medical Services (Board) that will be housed in the LA Dept. of Health (LDH) by an indeterminable amount. The increase of SGF expenditures is associated with maintaining the level of funding for the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (BEMS) that is housed within the Office of Public Health (OPH, see narrative below). BEMS currently performs the duties to be assumed by the new Board created by the proposed legislation. Furthermore, LDH reports an eventual need for 3 T.O. positions to undertake the Board's administrative duties with a total estimated cost of \$353,418.

BEMS currently has a total funding level of approximately \$1.12 M (\$528,811 SGF, \$350,000 SGR, \$9,000 statutorily dedicated Emergency Medical Technician Fund, \$235,058 federal funds), as well as 6 T.O. positions and 2 WAE positions. LDH anticipates all positions and state effort associated with BEMS to be transferred to the new Board. However, OPH partially funds BEMS utilizing a federal preventative health block grant that the department reports cannot be transferred to the new Board, as the block grant is restricted to OPH use as the grant's recipient. Therefore, LDH reports that an additional SGF appropriation equivalent to the current federal resources (\$235,058) funding the BEMS function within OPH will be required to maintain the funding level for this function. **The Legislative Fiscal Office cannot verify the block grant funding being restricted solely for use by OPH and is seeking further information regarding restriction of the grant funds, including the potential transfer of grant funds to another state agency. To the extent OPH may receive and transfer block grant funds to other state agencies, OPH and the Board may enter into a contract or interagency transfer agreement allowing OPH to disburse the funds to the Board. In the event the grant funds may not be transferred, the Board would likely require an SGF appropriation to maintain the current funding level associated with overseeing emergency medical services or reduce services by a proportionate amount.**

Furthermore, proposed law states that LDH must provide information technology services and legal support, as well as technical assistance regarding purchasing, payroll, and budget matters for a minimum of 1 year. Based upon the administration of the LA Emergency Response Network, a similar board housed within LDH, the department reports that the transfer of budget development, accounting, and human resource functions to the Board would require 3 additional T.O. positions with total associated personal services expenditures of approximately \$353,418 SGF in FY 20 (executive director - \$141,585 salary & related benefits, human resources administrator - \$123,662 salary & related benefits, accountant - \$88,171). However, proposed law does not mandate when the transfer of these services must occur, therefore it is unclear when the Board would begin to incur these expenditures.

Lastly, proposed law establishes that Board states it must meet no less frequently than quarterly. To the extent members must travel for such meetings, it is assumed that they would be reimbursed for mileage and per diem pursuant to PPM 49.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure. Fees outlined in proposed law align with fees currently in statute.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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