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Fiscal Note

2023-2024 Legislative Session

HF141 - 0 - Volunteer Education Cost Reimbursement; Ambulance

Chief Author: **John Huot**
 Committee: **Health Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **1/21/2023 8:10:10 PM**
 Agency: **Emergency Medical Services Bd**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
General Fund						
Expenditures		-	62	63	64	65
Absorbed Costs		-	(62)	(63)	(64)	(65)
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
General Fund						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill increases the reimbursement rates provided by the Minnesota EMS Regulatory Board to individuals who meet the definition of being a Volunteer Ambulance Attendant. The amount reimbursed for an initial EMT program would increase from \$600 to \$900 and the reimbursement for a continuing education refresher course would increase from \$275 to \$375. (All dollar amounts are in 100s)

Assumptions

EMSRB consulted usage of the Volunteer Education Reimbursement Program for FY22. There was a total of \$157,525 in reimbursements for FY22. Approximately 25% of the reimbursements were for initial education reimbursements and the remaining 75% were for continuing education reimbursements. The final assumption that was that there would be no increase in usage of the Volunteer Education Reimbursement Program and that the number of applications would remain consistent with what was seen in FY22.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

EMSRB applied the 25/75 ratios to the total amount of funding that was expended for reimbursements for FY22, utilizing the increased reimbursement amounts in the bill. EMSRB determined that the increased reimbursement amounts would have increased FY22 reimbursement expenses by \$62,400, or a 40% increase over the \$157,525 that was spent. This increase can be supported by existing funding and appropriation levels.

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Pursuant to the special session laws of 2003 Chapter 14, any unutilized funding from the volunteer education reimbursement programs is to be distributed the following year by way of a grant to the eight (8) Regional EMS Programs as identified in 144E. Using the same assumptions and formulas as above, the \$62,400 that would be paid in increased reimbursements to ambulance services would no longer be available to carry over to the Regional EMS Programs. In FY22 there was a total of \$203,475 carried forward to the Regional EMS Programs, a reduction of that \$62,400 would equate to a 69.9% decrease in these rollover funds. This reduction to the Regional EMS Programs will likely have both short term and long-term fiscal impacts to those organizations. So, while EMSRB can absorb the cost of the increased

reimbursements, we cannot absorb both the increased reimbursements and continue to fund the Regional EMS Programs at the same funding level.

Local Fiscal Impact

There are many local governments that operate ambulance services and receive these reimbursements. Local governments that utilize the program will receive more funding than previously for sending their personnel to train and will not have to take a fiscal loss or as much of a fiscal loss for doing so. This bill would only positively impact local government.

References/Sources

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