

Subject Ambulance services

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Overview

This bill modifies medical assistance reimbursement for nonemergency medical transportation services and ambulances, establishes temporary operating requirements for ambulance services and certain ambulance service personnel, and appropriates money to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Transportation costs.
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Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 17. Amends a subdivision governing medical assistance reimbursement for nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) services, to require the commissioner of human services to adjust, on a quarterly basis, the per-mile rate paid to NEMT services by one percent for every ten cents of increase or decrease in the price of gasoline, with \$3.00 as the base gasoline price.

This section is effective July 1, 2022.

2	Payment for ambulance services.
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Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 17a. Amends a subdivision governing medical assistance reimbursement for ambulance services, to require the commissioner of human services to adjust, on a quarterly basis, the per-mile rate paid to ambulance services by one percent for every ten cents of increase or decrease in the price of gasoline, with \$3.00 as the base gasoline price.

This section is effective July 1, 2022.

3	Temporary requirements governing ambulance service operations and the provision of emergency medical services.
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Establishes temporary requirements for ambulance service staffing, the use of expired emergency medications and medical supplies by ambulance services, and the provision of emergency medical services after expiration of a certification.

Section	Description
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Subd. 1. Application. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary in the chapter governing ambulance services, allows an ambulance service to operate according to this section, and allows certain ambulance service personnel to provide emergency medical services according to this section.

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines terms for this section: advanced emergency medical technician, advanced life support, ambulance, ambulance service personnel, basic life support, board, emergency medical technician, paramedic, and primary service area.

Subd. 3. Staffing. Requires a basic life support ambulance responding to emergency calls in its primary service area to be staffed with at least one emergency medical technician (EMT) and one driver. Requires an advanced life support ambulance responding to emergency calls in its primary service area to be staffed with at least one paramedic, registered nurse who meets certain requirements, or physician assistant who meets certain requirements; and one driver. Requires the ambulance service director and medical director to approve staffing under this subdivision, and requires the ambulance service to notify the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board if it staffs ambulances under this subdivision. Allows the board to temporarily suspend or prohibit a driver from driving an ambulance, or to place conditions on a driver's ability to drive an ambulance, if the driver commits an act that is a ground for disciplinary action for emergency medical responders.

Subd. 4. Use of expired emergency medications and medical supplies. Allows an ambulance service experiencing a shortage of an emergency medication or medical supply to use an emergency medication or medical supply for up to six months after the expiration date of the medication or supply, provided the ambulance service director and medical director approve the use and other conditions are met. Requires an ambulance service to keep a record of expired emergency medications and medical supplies used and to submit that record to the board.

Subd. 5. Provision of emergency medical services after certification expires. Allows an ambulance service medical director to authorize an emergency medical technician (EMT), advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT), or paramedic to provide emergency medical services for up to three months after the certification of the EMT, AEMT, or paramedic expires. Requires an ambulance service to immediately notify the board when its medical director authorizes an EMT, AEMT, or paramedic to provide services after expiration of the certification.

Subd. 6. Reports. Requires the board to provide quarterly reports to the chairs and ranking minority members of certain legislative committees regarding

Section	Description
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ambulance service operations under subdivisions 3, 4, and 5. Lists information the reports must include.

Subd. 7. Expiration. Provides that this section expires January 1, 2024.

This section is effective the day following final enactment.

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| 4 | <p>Appropriation; Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board.
Appropriates \$200,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board for rent costs and to hire an additional staff person.</p> |
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