



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 468

PRINTER'S NO: 951

PRIME SPONSOR: Melio

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0*	\$0*

* See analysis

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 468 amends Title 35 (Health & Safety) and Title 75 (Transportation), replacing the Emergency Medical Services Act of 1985. These revisions would define the scope and practice of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers according to national standards of practice rather than having it based on the EMS curriculum. Under the act, the Department of Health would be the lead agency for EMS activities in the Commonwealth. The Department would be responsible for regulations; oversight (including disciplinary actions); data collection; licensure and oversight of emergency medical related agencies, personnel and services; inspection of EMS agencies; investigating complaints, establishing protocols, and development of a statewide plan. The act provides for conditional temporary licensure, corrective plans of action and license sanctions. The act gives the Department authority to assess civil money penalties.

The act addresses trauma center accreditation under the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation. In addition, the act integrates all trauma centers into the statewide EMS system. In addition, the act addresses the composition and duties of a State Advisory Board. The act includes provisions regarding the establishment of regional EMS councils, to which the Department may award grants and contracts using Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund money within the defined purposes in the act.

The provisions of Title 35 pertaining to the Emergency Medical Services program shall take effect 180 days after publication of the notice under section 7 of the act. The provisions of Title 75 will take effect immediately. The remainder of the act shall take effect in 180 days.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 468 would require the Department of Health to make informational technology (software) changes totaling \$55,000. The ability of the Department to assess civil money penalties is expected to generate approximately \$10,000 annually. The Department also notes possible cost-savings (relating to staff responsibilities) due to the redesign. The Department will be able to address the required changes under the act within its operating budget.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

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General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*