

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1351

PRINTER NO. 2124

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Funds

DATE INTRODUCED

June 7, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Frankel

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1351 amends the Human Services Code to amend the terms of the board members of the Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority (RHRCA). The terms of the board composition shall be staggered as follows:

- Two years: participating rural hospital members;
- Three years: participating payer, participating Medicaid managed care organization and hospital or health system representative; and
- Four years: two members appointed by the Governor who are nationally recognized experts in this subject matter area.

The bill stipulates that if a board member leaves the board prior to completing a term due to change in professional status, including but not limited to retirement, changing jobs, failure to qualify or similar reasons, a new member shall be appointed or selected within 60 days of the seat becoming vacant.

This provision will take effect in 60 days.

Fiscal Impact: This change will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

Hospital Assessment

This bill provides for an extension through June 30, 2028, of an assessment on all inpatient acute care and rehabilitation hospitals at a set percentage of their net inpatient revenue and net outpatient revenue.

Fiscal Impact: The assessment will save the General Fund \$368 million in Fiscal Year 2023-24 and \$452 million in Fiscal Years 2024-25 through 2027-28. The budget assumes incremental savings of \$68 million.

EMS Reimbursement Rates

This bill increases ambulance transportation rates by requiring the Department of Human Services (DHS) to pay for all loaded miles. In addition, DHS shall reimburse providers at the greater of Medicare or Medicaid rates for ambulance services.

Fiscal Impact: This change will result in an increased cost of \$60.5 million, of which \$20.8 million will be state funds. This funding was included in this year's General Appropriation Act.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

Nursing Facility Case-Mix Rate

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to base each nursing facility's case-mix rate on the information that Fiscal Year 2022-23 rates were based upon.

Fiscal Impact: This provision will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.