

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulation
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
(DLS Control No. 16-137)**

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

The regulation incorporates by reference the July 1, 2016 edition of the Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services Providers.

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

Local government expenditures for public safety ambulances increase by a minimal amount beginning in fiscal 2017 due to revisions to emergency medical services protocols. State agencies and local government revenues are not affected.

Regulation of COMAR Affected

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems:

General: Documents Incorporated by Reference: COMAR 30.01.02.01

Legal Analysis

Background

The Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services Providers are intended to standardize the prehospital care that is provided by emergency medical services providers and to help those providers prepare for various medical situations they may face.

Summary of Regulation

The regulation incorporates by reference the July 1, 2016 edition of the Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services Providers.

Legal Issues

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems cites § 13-516 of the Education Article as statutory authority for the regulation. Section 13-516(d) authorizes the

State Emergency Medical Services Board to adopt regulations to carry out certain provisions of law regarding emergency medical services.

This authority is correct and complete. The regulation complies with the legislative intent of the law.

Fiscal Analysis

Local government expenditures for public safety ambulances increase by a minimal amount beginning in fiscal 2017 due to revisions to emergency medical services protocols. State agencies and local government revenues are not affected.

Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact

The July 1, 2016 edition of the *Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services Providers* contains significant revisions. The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) advises that two changes have a minimal fiscal impact on local governments that operate public safety ambulances. Public safety ambulances must carry amiodarone (which replaces lidocaine as the drug of choice for cardiac-related emergencies) for two patients and may carry dextrose 10% as an alternative to dextrose 50% for two patients. Amiodarone for two patients increases the cost per ambulance by \$64, while the option to carry dextrose 10% reduces the cost per ambulance by \$40, for a net increase in cost of \$24 per ambulance, or a total of \$8,784 for all 366 public safety ambulances statewide. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Impact on Budget

There is no impact on the State operating or capital budget.

Agency Estimate of Projected Small Business Impact

MIEMSS advises that the regulation has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Contact Information

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