

Senate Bill 401 (Chairman, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee)  
(Departmental - MD Institute for Emergency Medical Serv. Sys.)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs                      Referred to Environmental Matters

This enrolled departmental bill authorizes the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board to charge a fee for the designation of trauma and specialty referral centers. The fees charged must cover the direct costs of the designation program. The bill establishes the Emergency Medical Services Trauma and Specialty Referral Centers Designation Fund into which fee collections are to be paid.

**State Effect:** Offsetting special fund revenue and expenditure increase. Centers must be designated only once every five years; future year revenues and expenditures increase with inflation.

Note: ( ) - decrease; GF - general funds; FF - federal funds; SF - special funds

**Small Business Effect:** The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems has determined that the bill has minimal or no impact on small businesses (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment as discussed below. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

## **Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) is directed by the EMS board. Emergency regulations authorizing MIEMSS to charge a fee for the designation of trauma and specialty referral centers were published in the Maryland Register on January 3, 1997 and are expected to be adopted in March. The regulations authorize MIEMSS to (1) designate a hospital as a trauma or specialty center; (2) establish standards for a designated center to provide trauma or specialty care services; (3) take disciplinary action if a trauma or specialty center fails to comply with regulations; and (4) collect trauma or specialty care data.

**State Effect:** Special fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$47,800 in fiscal 1998 for MIEMSS to perform site surveys and validation of half of the 21 trauma and specialty centers. That amount includes \$23,625 in honoraria and \$24,192 for meals, travel, and lodging expenses for three independent professionals used as members of site survey teams. The honoraria would be \$750 per day per surveyor, meals would be \$30 per day per surveyor, lodging would be \$95 per day per surveyor, and travel costs include both airfare (surveyors asked to participate will come from nearby states) and automobile mileage reimbursement (\$0.29 per mile). Each center would require one day to survey.

Expenditures would be offset by a special fund revenue increase of \$47,800 in fiscal 1998. The estimate assumes an average fee of \$4,345 per center for 11 centers.

The designation of the 21 trauma and specialty referral centers is expected to take place over the course of fiscal 1998 and 1999; after that, each center would need to be designated once every five years. Future year expenditures and revenues assume an increase of 2% annual inflation.

**Small Business Effect:** The bill would affect hospitals, which are not small businesses.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems,  
Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 1997  
mld Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 23, 1997

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