

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 1041
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Pipkin” and substitute “Pipkin, and Exum”; strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Joint Oversight Committee on Emergency Medical Services”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “services” in line 7 and substitute “establishing the Joint Oversight Committee on Emergency Medical Services; providing for the composition, terms, and staffing of the Committee; providing for the appointment of alternating chairs of the Committee; specifying the duties of the Committee”; strike beginning with “Commission” in line 7 down through “Services,” in line 8 and substitute “Committee”; in line 8, after “findings” insert “and recommendations”; in line 9, strike “a”; in the same line, strike “date” and substitute “dates”; in line 10, after “helicopters” insert “on or”; in line 11, strike “report is submitted” and substitute “date”; and in line 12, strike “helicopter emergency medical services” and substitute “the Joint Oversight Committee on Emergency Medical Services”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 15 and 16 and substitute:

“(a) In this section, “Committee” means the Joint Oversight Committee on Emergency Medical Services.

(b) There is a Joint Oversight Committee on Emergency Medical Services.

(c) (1) The Committee consists of eight members.

(2) Of the eight members:

(Over)

(i) three shall be members of the Senate Finance Committee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(ii) one shall be a member of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(iii) three shall be members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

(iv) one shall be a member of the House Appropriations Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

(d) The members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the presiding officer who appointed them.

(e) (1) From among the membership of the Committee, the President shall appoint a Senator to serve as the Senate chair of the Committee and the Speaker shall appoint a Delegate to serve as the House chair of the Committee.

(2) The Senate chair and the House chair shall alternate annually as presiding chairs and cochairs of the Committee.

(f) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Committee, with assistance from the Maryland Health Care Commission.

(g) The Committee shall:

(1) review helicopter procurement, lease, and refurbishment options and conduct:

(i) an examination of typical capital and operating costs for helicopter emergency services in other states by type of aircraft; and

(ii) an examination of projected changes in the number of future helicopter emergency medical services that would be provided in the State and the future need for the services;

(2) review annual protocol changes for emergency services field providers and ensure that training and examination requirements are adequate;

(3) review efforts by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services to address the recommendations of the expert panel on Helicopter Utilization and Protocols assembled by the Institute;

(4) review safety improvements to emergency medical services provided by the State, including:

(i) 14 C.F.R. Part 135 compliance;

(ii) Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Services certification;

(iii) equipment upgrades;

(iv) the addition of copilots to the helicopter flight crew;

(v) the requirement that all emergency medical services flights use Instrument Flight Rules;

(vi) the addition of medical crew members to the helicopter flight crew;

(vii) compliance with National Transportation Safety Board recommendations regarding helicopter emergency medical services; and

(Over)

(viii) requiring a dispatch system run by medical providers;;

in line 17, strike “(1)” and substitute “(5) conduct”; in line 20, after “location,” insert “and”; and in line 22, strike “and”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 23 on page 1 through line 2 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“(6) gather information from commercial air ambulance companies operating in the State and in other states regarding:

(i) the estimated cost of providing medevac services in the State using medevac helicopters that are in standard use throughout the United States where the estimated cost is based on:

1. the current number of helicopters operated by the State police;

2. the number and location of bases for helicopters operated by the State police; and

3. the annual total mission numbers of 1,700, 2,500, and 3,000;

(ii) recommendations for avoiding or reducing costs through the leasing of helicopters or any similar method; and

(iii) the professional qualifications of aircraft crews used for helicopter emergency medical services;

(7) conduct a review of the safety record of publicly run air ambulance services compared to the record of private air ambulance services;

On page 2, in line 3, strike “(3) a comparison of” and substitute “(8) compare”; in line 9, strike “and”; strike lines 10 through 12, inclusive, and substitute:

“(9) review the organization of emergency medical services in the State, including whether any emergency services agencies should be streamlined or consolidated and what responsibilities are duplicated;

(10) determine capital expenses, medical crew expenses, pilot expenses, and maintenance expenses of the State helicopter emergency medical services; and

(11) compare the methods by which emergency medical helicopters are maintained in the State and in other states and make recommendations regarding:

(i) whether the State should continue to operate repair facilities under a Federal Aviation Administration 14 C.F.R. Part 145 repair station certificate;

(ii) the option to outsource helicopter maintenance; and

(iii) the cost and feasibility of maintenance options for the emergency medical helicopters available to the State.”;

after line 12, insert:

“(h) On or before January 10, 2010, the Committee shall report its interim findings to the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Health and Government Operations Committee, and the House Environmental Matters Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.”;

(Over)

in line 13, strike “(b)” and substitute “(i)”; in the same line, strike “February” and substitute “December”; strike beginning with “Maryland” in line 13 down through “Services” in line 14 and substitute “Committee”; in line 15, after “its” insert “final”; in the same line, after “findings” insert “and recommendations”; in line 19, strike “(c)” and substitute “(j)”; in the same line, after “helicopters” insert “on or”; in line 20, strike “the submission of the report required under paragraph (b)” and substitute “April 30, 2011”; in line 22, strike “October” and substitute “July”; in the same line, strike “6” and substitute “1 year and 10”; and in line 23, strike “March 31, 2010” and substitute “April 30, 2011”.