

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1524 (Delegate Kelly, *et al.*)
Health and Government Operations

Health Insurance - Ambulance Service Providers - Direct Reimbursement

This bill requires insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to reimburse an ambulance service provider directly for *covered* services provided to the insured or other individual covered by the policy or contract. An ambulance service provider is entitled to direct reimbursement regardless of ownership, reason for the response, or network status.

The bill applies to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after October 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in special fund revenues for the Maryland Insurance Administration in FY 2011 from the \$125 rate and form filing fee. Review and approval of forms and rate filings can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: The bill may help local governments secure reimbursement for ambulance services to the extent that local governments charge for providing them.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Current law does not require that carriers reimburse ambulance service providers.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 745 (Senator Colburn) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Kent, Montgomery, and Worcester counties; Towns of Berlin and Bladensburg; City of Rockville; Department of Budget and Management; Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems; Maryland Health Insurance Plan; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Maryland Insurance Administration; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 23, 2010
ncs/mwc

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