

HB 441 Community Paramedicine Amendments

(Rep D.N. Johnson)

Anticipated Fiscal Impact for State:

\$195,300

Summary

HB 441 authorizes the creation of an onsite medical service for ambulance providers. We expect that the creation of this service would cost the state health insurance plan \$195,300.

Currently, an ambulance provider can only bill a health plan, like PEHP, for emergency transport services. Consequently, if a patient refuses transport, the ambulance provider is not permitted to bill the patient or their health plan. HB 441 would permit ambulance providers to bill in these situations.

Currently, the state pays for about 650 ambulance transports every year at an average cost of about \$2400. In reviewing data from other sources, we believe that about 25% of ambulance calls do not result in a transport. As such, we would anticipate that HB 441 would result in 217 claims per year for onsite medical services without transport. Also, in our analysis of ambulance rates in Utah and other states, we would anticipate a rate for such services at about \$900 per episode. Multiplying 217 by \$900 would produce a total estimated cost of \$195,300 for the state health insurance plan.