

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 14, 2015

TO: Honorable John Otto, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3077 by Zerwas (Relating to emergency medical air transportation funding.), As Introduced

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB3077, As Introduced: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2016	\$0
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from New GR-Dedicated Emergency Medical Air Transportation Account	Probable Revenue Gain/(Loss) from Trauma Facility And Ems 5111
2016	\$14,500,000	(\$14,500,000)
2017	\$14,500,000	(\$14,500,000)
2018	\$14,500,000	(\$14,500,000)
2019	\$14,500,000	(\$14,500,000)
2020	\$14,500,000	(\$14,500,000)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend Chapter 773 of the Health and Safety Code to establish the Emergency Medical Air Transportation General Revenue-Dedicated (GR-D) Account. The bill would authorize appropriation of funds in the account to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), to be used for emergency medical air transportation. The bill would also authorize the

transfer of funds to the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to be used for reimbursement to providers of emergency medical air transportation, including reimbursement enhancements to designated air ambulance services, in order to maximize federal funds.

The bill would amend Chapter 542 of the Transportation Code to direct the comptroller to reduce the revenue from certain traffic fines currently deposited to GR-D Trauma Facility and EMS Account 5111 from 33 percent to 16.5 percent, and to deposit 16.5 percent of this revenue into the new GR-D account instead.

This legislation would do one or more of the following: create or recreate a dedicated account in the General Revenue Fund, create or recreate a special or trust fund either with or outside of the Treasury, or create a dedicated revenue source. The fund, account, or revenue dedication included in this bill would be subject to funds consolidation review by the current Legislature.

Methodology

This analysis assumes no additional appropriation of revenue related to emergency services and that appropriations from GR-D Trauma Facility and EMS Account 5111 would remain at their current level. According to HHSC, emergency medical air transportation is currently a Medicaid-covered benefit, therefore if funds for emergency air transportation were appropriated to DSHS and transferred to HHSC as authorized by the bill, there would be a corresponding savings in General Revenue Match for Medicaid. These savings would not be realized if rate enhancements for providers were funded, as authorized by the bill. The Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) estimates that \$14.5 million in projected revenue would be redirected from GR-D Trauma Facility and EMS Account 5111 to the new emergency medical air transportation dedicated account for no net change to General Revenue-Dedicated Funds.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

LBB Staff: UP, KK, WP, VJC, SS