

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 86TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 17, 2019**

**TO:** Honorable Senfronia Thompson, Chair, House Committee on Public Health

**FROM:** John McGeady, Assistant Director    Sarah Keyton, Assistant Director  
Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2041** by Oliverson (Relating to the regulation of freestanding emergency medical care facilities.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB2041, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted: a negative impact of (\$879,102) through the biennium ending August 31, 2021.

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:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2020	(\$217,461)
2021	(\$661,641)
2022	(\$661,641)
2023	(\$661,641)
2024	(\$661,641)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2019</b>
	<b>1</b>	
2020	(\$217,461)	1.0
2021	(\$661,641)	1.0
2022	(\$661,641)	1.0
2023	(\$661,641)	1.0
2024	(\$661,641)	1.0

## **Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would amend the Health and Safety Code as it relates to the regulation of freestanding emergency medical care facilities. The bill would add freestanding emergency medical care facilities to the list of health care facilities from which the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) must capture and report administrative claims data. The reporting requirements would include freestanding emergency medical care facilities that are owned or operated by a licensed or state-owned hospital.

The bill would require all administrative penalties collected under Chapter 254 of the Health and Safety Code to be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the Freestanding Emergency Medical Care Facility Licensing Fund. Under current law, DSHS may impose an administrative penalty on a person licensed to operate a freestanding emergency medical care facility for violating rules under Chapter 254, and this penalty revenue is deposited to General Revenue.

The bill would not require DSHS to collect data from a freestanding emergency medical care facility unless money is available for that purpose.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

Note: 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 in, with, or outside of the Treasury, or create a dedicated revenue source. Legislative policy, implemented as Government Code 403.095, consolidated special funds (except those affected by constitutional, federal, or other restrictions) into the General Revenue Fund as of August 31, 1993 and eliminated all applicable statutory revenue dedications as of August 31, 1995. Each subsequent Legislature has reviewed bills that affect funds consolidation. The fund, account, or revenue dedication included in this bill would be subject to funds consolidation review by the current Legislature.

## **Methodology**

To implement the provisions of the bill, DSHS indicates that the agency would need to amend its current contract for collecting freestanding emergency medical care data, update the contracted system, process the administrative claims data, and provide help desk activities. According to LBB analysis of DSHS, to begin the collection of the new claims data by September 1, 2020, these activities would cost \$90,000 in fiscal year 2020, and \$450,000 in subsequent fiscal years.

DSHS indicates that the agency would require one FTE to work with its vendor on data collection, manage the data set, and report information related to the data set. DSHS estimates that this additional FTE and other costs associated with the bill, including operating expenses for test client services contracts, capital equipment, and indirect costs, would be \$127,461 in fiscal year 2020 and \$211,641 in subsequent fiscal years.

According to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the fiscal impact of the bill on administrative penalty revenue cannot be determined, as the number of cases of noncompliance resulting in penalty revenue is unknown.

The estimated total to comply with the provisions of the bill would be \$217,461 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2020 and \$661,641 in subsequent fiscal years.

## **Technology**

Technology costs are estimated to be \$94,134 in fiscal year 2020 and \$454,129 in subsequent fiscal years for FTE seat management activities and updates to the contracted data collection system.

## **Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 537 State Health Services,  
Department of

**LBB Staff:** WP, AKi, MNa