STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - SUMMARY OF BILL DRAFT

This memorandum provides a summary of a bill draft (10081.0200) being considered by the Public Safety and Transportation Committee relating to state financial assistance for emergency medical services (EMS) providers.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROVISIONS

The bill draft:

1. Provides that the State Department of Health maintain a strategic plan for EMS in the state.

2. Requires the State Department of Health to designate 88 primary EMS funding areas.

3. Requires each primary EMS funding area to establish an oversight board.

4. Provides that oversight boards for each of their areas:
   a. Establish and maintain a plan for EMS.
   b. Establish EMS operational standards.
   c. Monitor performance of EMS operations.
   d. Allocate state financial assistance for EMS to EMS operations.
   e. Provide EMS statistics as requested by the State Department of Health.

5. Provides that the State Department of Health annually determine the allocation of state financial assistance for EMS for each primary EMS funding area. Based on this allocation and the amount of coverage area each primary EMS funding area has within each county, the State Department of Health provides the financial assistance funding to the counties.

6. Provides that based on the funding allocation information provided by the State Department of Health, the counties distribute the funding to each area's oversight board.

7. Allows each oversight board to determine the amount of state financial assistance to provide to each EMS operation within the area.

8. Appropriates $12 million from the insurance tax distribution fund to the State Department of Health for state financial assistance for EMS for the 2011-13 biennium.

FUNDING FLOW

Funding appropriated to the State Department of Health for state financial assistance for EMS will be distributed as follows:

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State Department of Health
     ↓
  Counties
     ↓
Primary EMS Funding Area Oversight Boards
     ↓
EMS Operations
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