

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: July 2, 2008
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: AB 2917
AUTHOR: A. Torrico
RELATED BILLS: SB 997 (Ridley-Thomas)

BILL SUMMARY: Emergency Medical Services Personnel

This bill would require the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) to establish a statewide emergency medical technician (EMT) registry and develop standards, guidelines, and regulations for certification of specified EMTs. This bill would also establish rules for EMT discipline and the investigation of misconduct.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would require a General Fund loan of \$1.4 million in fiscal year 2009/10 to be paid back over the following six years from year-end fund balances. The General Fund loan would support the statewide EMT registry costs in 2009/10. Beginning in 2010/11, the registry would be supported by fees collected from EMT licensure and licensure renewal.

COMMENTS

Finance is opposed to this bill for the following reasons:

- This bill would create a \$1.4 million dollar General Fund pressure in 2009/10.
- This bill may create a reimbursable state mandate relative to local review of background check materials. According to the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the potential costs would be minimal. There has been no indication during stakeholder meetings, comprised of locals, unions, and ambulance strike team representatives, that any costs would shift to the state.

The intent of this bill to address concerns relating to a lack of statewide standards for EMT background checks and no state requirement to conduct such background checks prior to placing an EMT into public service. The criminal history and background of EMTs is vital when they secure the safety of public lives. Furthermore there is no repository of information regarding the certification status of EMTs in this state. Any agency which seeks to certify EMT personnel has no means under existing law to reference the prior certification history of the applicant.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		
	RV	98	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	
4120/Emer Med Svc	SO	No		--	C	\$1,400		--	0001

Analyst/Principal (0513) J. Wordlaw	Date	Program Budget Manager Michael Wilkening	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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