

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 522

(Senator DeGrange, *et al.*)

Finance

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Public Safety - Emergency Medical Services Board - Membership

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This bill increases the membership of the Emergency Medical Services Board to 13 by adding 2 members: • a helicopter pilot employed by the Department of State Police Aviation Division; and • an additional member from the public at large.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The EMS board consists of 11 members, including • the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene or a designee; • a representative of the University of Maryland, Baltimore; • the chairperson of the advisory council; • two physicians; • a nurse; • one career and one volunteer firefighter, EMS, or rescue squad representative; • a hospital administrator; and • two members from the public at large, one of whom must reside in a county with a population of less than 175,000. Members are appointed by the Governor and must have a demonstrated interest or experience in the delivery of emergency medical services.

**Background:** The EMS board governs the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems including • developing and adopting an EMS plan; • adopting

regulations for ambulance service licensing; • approving EMS provider training courses; • examining and certifying EMS personnel; • appointing the Provider Review Panel; • taking disciplinary action against EMS personnel; • administering the Automated External Defibrillator Program; and • with the approval of the Governor, appointing the executive director of MIEMSS, who serves at the pleasure of the EMS board. The EMS board also appoints an advisory committee, which advises and assists the EMS board in performing its functions.

MIEMSS oversees an EMS system that includes over 30,000 Maryland-certified EMS providers, 48 hospital emergency departments, 9 trauma centers, and the Department of State Police Medevac helicopter system that provides over 5,400 transports a year. MIEMSS regulates commercial ground and air ambulance services that provide 191,000 ground and 3,500 air transports annually.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 556 (Delegate G. Clagett, *et al.*) – Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 15, 2008  
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