

HB 2346 -- Federal Reimbursement Allowance for Ambulance Services

Sponsor: Schaaf

This bill creates a federal reimbursement allowance for ground ambulance services. Each ambulance service, except state-owned and state-operated ambulances, will be required to pay an ambulance service reimbursement allowance based on a formula created by the Department of Social Services. Each ambulance service is required to keep records necessary to determine the amount of its reimbursement allowance.

The Director of the Department of Social Services is required to determine the amount of ambulance service reimbursement allowance due and notify each ambulance service by October 1 each year. The department is authorized to offset the ambulance service reimbursement allowance against any MO HealthNet Program payment due to that ambulance service, if requested by the ambulance service.

Each ambulance service reimbursement allowance determination is final, unless the ambulance service files a protest with the director of the department within 30 days of receipt of the written notice. If a timely protest is filed, the director will reconsider the determination.

The bill creates the Ambulance Service Reimbursement Allowance Fund to provide payment to ambulance services and disburse up to 5% of the federal funds deposited into the fund each year. The bill also creates the Ambulance Service Quality of Care Fund and requires all investment earnings of the Ambulance Service Quality of Care Fund be credited to said fund.

The ambulance reimbursement allowance period will be from October 1 to September 30. The department is required to notify each ambulance service September 30 of each year the balance due. If an ambulance service fails to pay its reimbursement allowance within 30 days of the notice, the reimbursement allowance is then considered delinquent.

The provisions of the bill will apply if the revenues generated are eligible for federal participation under the MO HealthNet Program. The bill requires the department to provide copies of the proposed program rules to all interested parties 72 hours before filing the proposed rules with the Secretary of State. The director of the department is required to maintain a list of registered interested parties.

The provisions of the bill will expire on September 30, 2014.