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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Roch ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/15  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 244

SHORT TITLE Study Statewide Emergency Services Funding SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Lucero

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$300.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 244 appropriates three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Department of Health (DOH) for expenditure in FY16 for the Injury Prevention and Emergency Medical Services Bureau of the Public Health Division to conduct a study to determine how the state can best fund emergency services statewide.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2016 shall revert to the general fund.

DOH reports the appropriation would be used to fund personnel, survey, and reporting costs. A similar survey regarding statewide fire protection completed by the State Fire Marshal's Office took approximately one year. The Emergency Medical Systems Bureau would initiate the survey in September of 2015, and working with counties, municipalities, and statewide stakeholders, generate a final report and recommendation by September 2016 in time for the FY17 budget request.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The DOH reports, agencies that provide emergency medical services (EMS), especially in the rural and frontier areas, are reporting extreme difficulty in funding the educational and operational needs for providing emergency medical services. The amount of local system funding for the state’s EMS agencies available through the EMS fund decreased from \$2.9 million in FY09 to \$2.4 million in FY15. Local county and municipal governments have been challenged to provide additional or adequate funding. A decrease in the number of volunteers has been reported by multiple rural and frontier agencies. This bill would allow DOH through the Emergency Medical Systems Bureau, to identify specific system issues and work with counties and municipalities to develop strategies to adequately fund the statewide EMS system.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

DOH note the bill is consistent with the Fiscal Year 2014-2016 Department of Health Strategic Plan, specifically Healthcare Result 2 – the improved quality, accessibility, and utilization of health care services.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

DOH suggests, due to department reorganization, on line 18: delete the words “injury prevention and emergency medical services bureau of the public health division,” and replace with “emergency medical systems bureau of the epidemiology and response division.”

DL/je/aml