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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 553

01/19/2023 Authored by Brand and Schomacker
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health care; requiring the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory
1.3 Board to implement a communications and patient logistics platform; authorizing
1.4 grants; requiring annual reports; appropriating money; proposing coding for new
1.5 law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144E.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. [144E.122] MULTIJURISDICTION COMMUNICATIONS AND PATIENT
1.8 LOGISTICS PLATFORM.

1.9 Subdivision 1. Implementation, maintenance, and use of platform. The board must
1.10 purchase, implement, and maintain a secure, multijurisdiction communications and patient
1.11 logistics platform that is capable of providing patient tracking, facilitating the provision of
1.12 telehealth services, providing information necessary for appropriate destination selection
1.13 by ambulance service personnel, and collecting information needed to support additional
1.14 developments in time-sensitive systems of care. The platform must be available for use by
1.15 entities that include but are not limited to ambulance services licensed under this chapter,
1.16 regional emergency medical services systems designated under section 144E.50, health care
1.17 providers involved with emergency medical services integration and care, and medical
1.18 resource communication centers. The platform must contain functionalities that are scalable
1.19 to address routine, daily operations; pandemic response; mass casualty incidents; special
1.20 events; and natural disasters.

1.21 Subd. 2. Grants. The board may distribute grants on an annual basis to regional
1.22 emergency medical services systems designated under section 144E.50 to be used to support
1.23 implementation of the platform statewide.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Annual report.** By February 1, 2025, and each February 1 thereafter, the board
 2.2 must submit a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the board on the
 2.3 communications and patient logistics platform implemented according to this section.

2.4 Sec. 2. **MULTIJURISDICTION COMMUNICATIONS AND PATIENT LOGISTICS**
 2.5 **PLATFORM.**

2.6 Subdivision 1. **Purchase and implementation strategy.** By January 1, 2024, the
 2.7 Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board must purchase and develop an
 2.8 implementation strategy for a multijurisdiction communications and patient logistics platform
 2.9 that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.122.

2.10 Subd. 2. **Evaluation.** The board must establish a process to evaluate and implement the
 2.11 most practicable platform available that will interact with all levels of licensed ambulance
 2.12 services in the state. When evaluating platforms for purchase, the board must consider the
 2.13 ability of the platform to:

2.14 (1) assist with migrating surges of patients to acute care facilities;

2.15 (2) assist with responding to overcrowding at acute care facilities, including situations
 2.16 in which patients cannot be transferred;

2.17 (3) assist with appropriate load-leveling within licensed health care facilities; and

2.18 (4) provide information to allow more timely inpatient placements and more timely,
 2.19 in-place mental health and substance use assessments.

2.20 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.21 \$950,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$950,000 in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated from the
 2.22 general fund to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board for costs of the
 2.23 multijurisdiction communications and patient logistics platform. Of these amounts:

2.24 (1) \$750,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for the board to
 2.25 purchase and implement the multijurisdiction communications and patient logistics platform
 2.26 under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.122, subdivision 1;

2.27 (2) \$180,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$180,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for grants under
 2.28 Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.122, subdivision 2; and

2.29 (3) \$20,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$20,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for the board's
 2.30 administrative costs to purchase and implement the platform and issue grants under Minnesota
 2.31 Statutes, section 144E.122.