ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2025
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB610

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 26, 2025
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Bostar
One Liner: Change provisions relating to supplemental reimbursement for ground emergency medical transport under the Medical Assistance Act

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Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Hardin, Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Meyer, Quick, Riepe
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:	**Representing:**
Senator Eliot Bostar	Opening Presenter
Dave Engler	Chief, City of Lincoln Fire and Rescue
Gary Bruns	Nebraska Professional Firefighters Association
Dr. Mark Howerter	Nebraska Hospital Association
Robb Gottsch	Papillion Fire Chief/MFO of Papillion, LaVista, Rural
Jerry Stillmock	NE State Volunteer Firefighters Association, NE Fire Chiefs Association
Doug Koopman	Chief, South Sioux City Fire Department
Micheal Dwyer	self
Christy Abraham	League of Nebraska Municipalities
Micheal Dispain	self

Opponents:	**Representing:**

Neutral:	**Representing:**
Jeremy Brunssen	Division of Medicaid and LT Care, DHHS Director of Finance

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 610 requires DHHS to seek any federal approvals for the implementation of the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act (GEMT) and eliminates the current requirements of submitting a state plan amendment.

Sec. 1: The supplemental reimbursement shall be distributed exclusively to eligible providers on the basis of actual and allowable costs that are federally permissible.

Sec. 2: Language is added that the certification must conform to the federal regulation (42 C.F.R. 433.51) as it existed on January 1, 2025, including any applicable federal requirements.

Sec. 3: On or before January 1, 2026, DHHS shall seek any necessary federal approvals for the implementation of Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act. DHHS may limit the program to those costs that are allowable expenditures under the federal Social Security Act as such act and sections existed on January 1, 2025.

Language relating to requiring DHHS to submit a state plan amendment to CMS and requiring federal approval is removed.

Sec. 4: Harmonizes DHHS statute regarding the submitting of claims with the new language in subsection 2 of Sec. 3 of this bill. Cites the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act regarding judicial determinations.

Sec. 5: To the extent federal approval is obtained, the increased capitation payments are changed to January 1, 2025.

Explanation of amendments:

AM267 to 610 requires the supplemental reimbursement to not exceed, instead of equal, the amount of financial participation received as a result of the claims submitted.

DHHS is allowed to distribute the supplemental reimbursement to eligible providers under a payment method based on ground emergency medical transport services. The language, shall be distributed exclusively" is removed.

AM267 strikes "shall" and inserts "may" which allows, instead of requiring, DHHS to seek any necessary federal approvals for the implementation of this act.

AM267 strikes "shall" and inserts "may" which allows, instead of requiring, DHHS to submit claims for federal financial participation for the expenditures of the services.

AM267 strikes "shall" and inserts "may" which allows, instead of requiring, DHHS to annually submit any necessary materials to the federal government to provide assurances that claims for federal financial participation will include only those expenditures that are allowable under federal law.

The commencement date, to the extent federal approval is obtained, of increased capitation payments is changed from 2025 to 2026.

Brian Hardin, Chairperson