



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 447

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1010

Senate, April 2, 2015

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. LARSON of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST RESPONDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-175 of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subdivision (31) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 (NEW) (31) "Supplemental first responder" means an emergency
4 medical services provider who holds a certificate of authorization by
5 the commissioner and responds to a victim of sudden illness or injury
6 when available and when called upon.

7 Sec. 2. Section 19a-180 of the general statutes is amended by adding
8 subsection (k) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

9 (NEW) (k) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of
10 this section, any emergency medical services provider may apply to
11 the Commissioner of Public Health for a certificate of authorization as
12 a supplemental first responder. A certificate of authorization shall be

13 issued to an emergency medical services provider that shows proof
14 satisfactory to the commissioner that such emergency medical services
15 provider meets the minimum standards of the commissioner in the
16 areas of training, equipment and personnel. Applicants for a certificate
17 of authorization shall use the forms prescribed by the commissioner
18 and shall submit such application to the commissioner accompanied
19 by an annual fee of two hundred dollars. Such application shall require
20 letters of support from a primary service area responder that operates
21 in the service areas identified in the application and the chief elected
22 official or chief executive officer of the municipality in such service
23 area.

24 (2) If the primary service area responder, chief elected official or
25 chief executive officer refuse to submit letters of support for the
26 applicant's application, the primary service area responder, chief
27 elected official or chief executive officer shall notify such applicant
28 with a statement of the reasons for such refusal. Such applicant may
29 request a hearing in writing to the commissioner not later than thirty
30 days after the date of receipt of the statement from the primary service
31 area responder, chief elected official or chief executive officer. In
32 considering a request for a certificate of authorization as a
33 supplemental first responder, the commissioner shall consult with the
34 Office of Emergency Medical Services and shall hold a public hearing,
35 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to determine the
36 necessity for the emergency medical services offered by the applicant.
37 Written notice of such hearing shall be given to the primary service
38 area responder and the chief elected official or the chief executive
39 officer.

40 (3) Upon determination by the commissioner that an applicant is
41 financially responsible, properly certified and otherwise qualified to be
42 a supplemental first responder, the commissioner shall issue a
43 certificate of authorization effective for one year to such applicant. If
44 the commissioner determines that an applicant for a certificate of
45 authorization is not qualified, the commissioner shall notify such
46 applicant of the denial of the application with a statement of the

47 reasons for such denial. Such applicant shall have thirty days to
48 request a hearing on the denial of the application. Any hearing
49 conducted pursuant to this subdivision shall be conducted in
50 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. If the commissioner's
51 denial of a certificate of authorization is sustained after such hearing,
52 an applicant may make new application not less than one year after the
53 date on which such denial was sustained.

54 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 19a-181b of the general statutes is
55 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
56 *October 1, 2015*):

57 (a) Not later than July 1, 2002, each municipality shall establish a
58 local emergency medical services plan. Such plan shall include the
59 written agreements or contracts developed between the municipality,
60 its emergency medical services providers and the public safety
61 answering point, as defined in section 28-25, that covers the
62 municipality. The plan shall also include, but not be limited to, the
63 following:

64 (1) The identification of levels of emergency medical services,
65 including, but not limited to: (A) The public safety answering point
66 responsible for receiving emergency calls and notifying and assigning
67 the appropriate provider to a call for emergency medical services; (B)
68 the emergency medical services provider that is notified for initial
69 response; (C) basic ambulance service; (D) advanced life support level;
70 and (E) mutual aid call arrangements;

71 (2) The name of the person or entity responsible for carrying out
72 each level of emergency medical services that the plan identifies;

73 (3) The establishment of performance standards for each segment of
74 the municipality's emergency medical services system; [and]

75 (4) Any subcontracts, written agreements or mutual aid call
76 agreements that emergency medical services providers may have with
77 other entities to provide services identified in the plan; and

78 (5) A description of the coordination and cooperation between the
79 primary service area responder and any emergency medical services
80 provider with a certificate of authorization as a supplemental first
81 responder.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	19a-175
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	19a-180
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	19a-181b(a)

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	Less than \$20,000	Less than \$20,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a revenue gain to the General Fund that is anticipated to be less than \$20,000 from the annual certificate of authorization fee of \$200 established by the bill. Approximately 90 supplemental first responder agencies are expected to pay the fee annually.

The bill, which allows an emergency medical service provider to apply to the Department of Public Health for a certificate of authorization as a supplemental first responder, does not result in a fiscal impact to DPH.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1010*****AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST RESPONDERS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows any emergency medical service (EMS) provider to apply to the public health (DPH) commissioner for a certificate of authorization as a supplemental first responder.

The bill defines “supplemental first responder” as an EMS provider who holds a certificate of authorization by the DPH commissioner and responds to a victim of sudden illness or injury when available and when called upon. This certificate would allow supplemental first responders to respond to emergency calls covered by another primary service area responder (PSAR). By law, a “primary service area” is a specific geographic area to which DPH assigns a designated EMS provider (i.e., the PSAR) for each category of emergency medical response services (CGS § 19a-175).

The certificate costs \$200 annually. In order to apply for this certificate, the bill requires the EMS provider to

1. prove to the DPH commissioner’s satisfaction that he or she (a) meets the minimum standards of training, equipment, and personnel and (b) is financially responsible, properly certified, and otherwise qualified and
2. submit the application on a commissioner-prescribed form that includes letters of support from the affected area’s (a) PSAR and (b) municipal chief elected official or chief executive officer.

Before issuing a certificate, the bill requires DPH to consult with the Office of Emergency Medical Services and hold a public hearing on the

necessity of granting a certificate. DPH must provide written notice of the hearing to the PSAR and relevant municipal official or officer.

It also provides a notification and appeals process if (1) the PSAR or municipal chief refuses to produce a support letter or (2) DPH denies the certificate.

Under the bill, a local EMS plan must include a description of the coordination and cooperation between the PSAR and any EMS provider with a supplemental first responder certificate of authorization.

(In practice, DPH already certifies supplemental first responders with PSAR and municipal support.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

APPEALS PROCESS

Support Letters

Under the bill, if a PSAR or relevant municipal official or officer refuses to submit a letter of support for the EMS provider's supplemental first responder application, he or she must notify the applicant with a statement of the reasons for such refusal. Upon receiving notice, the applicant has 30 days to request a hearing by writing the DPH commissioner.

DPH

The bill requires the DPH commissioner to notify a denied applicant with a statement of the reasons for denying the certificate. Upon receiving notice, the applicant has 30 days to request a hearing in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act, which allows for appeals to Superior Court. If the commissioner's denial is upheld, an applicant may not apply again for one year from the date the ruling was upheld.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 3 (03/19/2015)