
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1229

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

SUMMARY

This bill makes changes affecting emergency medical services (EMS) data collection and the Department of Public Health's (DPH) EMS Advisory Board.

Current law requires EMS organizations to report to DPH quarterly on specified EMS call data, including the number of 9-1-1 calls received. The bill requires organizations to also report the reasons for the calls. Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, EMS organizations must also report the (1) level of EMS required for each call; (2) response time; (3) number of passed, cancelled, and mutual aid calls made and received; and (4) prehospital data for unscheduled patient transport.

By law, DPH must annually report on the data it collects to the EMS Advisory Board. Starting June 1, 2024, the bill requires the commissioner to also annually submit the report to the Public Health Committee.

For the EMS Advisory Board, the bill requires one of the legislative leaders' 18 existing appointments to be a person from a Connecticut association representing paramedics and emergency medical technicians.

Additionally, the bill expands the advisory board's responsibilities to include an annual study of the state's EMS services, including (1) analyzing DPH's annual report on the EMS data, (2) evaluating risk trends and patterns affecting EMS, and (3) identifying areas of the state at risk of receiving EMS delays. Starting by January 1, 2024, the advisory board must annually report on the study to the Public Health Committee.

The bill also requires the advisory board to study and make recommendations to address the shortage of EMS personnel in the state. It must report to the Public Health Committee on the study by January 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023, except that the provision requiring the advisory board to study the EMS personnel shortage takes effect upon passage.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 37 Nay 0 (03/27/2023)