

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 5215S.11T
Bill No.: Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed CCS for HCS for SS for SB 975
Subject: Ambulances and Ambulance Districts; Boards, Commissions, Committees, and
Councils; Elections
Type: Original
Date: June 16, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to ambulance districts.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	(\$128,523)	(\$148,144)	(\$150,780)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$128,523)	(\$148,144)	(\$150,780)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§§190.050, 190.051, 190.052, 190.070, 190.089 and 190.090 – Elections, Consolidations and Annexations for Ambulance Districts

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS)** assume §190.089 of the proposed legislation requires the DHSS to prioritize and expedite any activities needed to facilitate an ambulance district consolidation upon voter approval.

The DHSS, Division of Regulation and Licensure's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (BEMS) is responsible for the licensure of ambulance districts as authorized by §190, RSMo. The proposed legislation would require modifications to existing licensure processes to ensure compliance with the proposed §190.089, including revisions to the corresponding regulations. In addition, the Bureau would be required to submit applicable licensure applications to the DHSS's Office of General Counsel (OGC) for review to ensure completeness in accordance with statutory requirements.

The Bureau may experience an increase in workload associated with processing ambulance district licensure applications, coordinating OGC reviews, and conducting initial licensure inspection and complaint investigations. Any additional work related to licensure, renewals, OGC coordination, or complaints resulting from the proposed legislation would be managed within the normal ebb and flow of the Bureau's existing work scope.

It is assumed that the DHSS can absorb the costs of this bill with current resources. However, if the workload significantly increased or other legislation was enacted, additional resources would be requested through the appropriation process.

Oversight assumes DHSS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of activity each year. Oversight assumes DHSS could absorb the costs related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties at substantial costs, DHSS could request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Eastern Clay Ambulance District** assume the proposal will have a fiscal impact but did not provide any additional information.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Jackson County Election Board** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Oversight assumes these provisions are codifying in statute how the election for ambulance district directors and ambulance district consolidations and annexations shall be established

within the state. Oversight assumes these provisions relate to procedural changes within statute and will have no fiscal impact.

§590.192 – Critical Incident Stress Management Program

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety - Office of the Director (DPS)** assume this provision adds clarifying language to existing statute requiring creation of a program. DPS assumes unknown costs but expects that 1 FTE will be needed for this section.

Oversight does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimates as provided by the DPS.

Responses regarding the proposed legislation as a whole

Officials from the **Department of Mental Health, Platte County Board of Elections, St. Louis County Board of Elections, Phelps County Sheriff's Office, Branson Police Department, Kansas City Police Department, St. Louis County Police Department** and the **State Tax Commission** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **City of Kansas City, Kansas City Election Board** and the **St. Louis City Board of Elections** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other cities, local election authorities, counties, local law enforcement, fire protection districts and ambulance districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the

office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost – DPS (§590.192) p.4</u>			
Personnel Service	(\$76,798)	(\$94,001)	(\$95,881)
Fringe Benefits	(\$44,502)	(\$54,143)	(\$54,899)
Expense & Equipment	(\$7,223)	\$0	\$0
Total Costs – DPS	(\$128,523)	(\$148,144)	(\$150,780)
FTE Change – DPS	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	(\$128,523)	(\$148,144)	(\$150,780)
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This act modifies provisions relating to ambulance districts.

Under current law, when an ambulance district is created, the county commission divides the district into six election districts with equal populations, each election district then elects one member of the board of directors. This act authorizes the county commission to choose six election districts or have an at large election of the six directors.

The act allows an ambulance district to abolish the boundaries of its existing subdistricts if the board is unable to find qualified candidate to fill each subdistrict position. Such action requires a public hearing, and an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the board of directors.

Under this act, an ambulance district may, after a public hearing, adopt an ordinance by affirmative vote of two thirds to establish election subdistrict. The boundaries of such subdistricts shall be created by the county commission. Each subdistrict shall consist of contiguous territory and be as compact and equal in population as possible.

Current law provides that six-member ambulance district boards can adopt a resolution changing the size of the board to seven, with one board member running district wide, or decreased to five, or three members. This act requires such a resolution to name any vacancy to be filled at a subsequent election, if the size of the board is increasing. If the size is decreasing, all existing board members will complete their terms.

This act requires the county commission to fill vacant seats on the board of directors within thirty days, if a majority of the remaining directors makes a written request that the county commission fill such vacancies.

Under current law, voters can file a petition for the district to annex land, when such a petition is filed, the county commission shall have a hearing as soon as possible. Under this act, the county commission is required to have such hearing within thirty days of the petition being filed.

This act requires that where the voters approve the consolidation of an ambulance district, any activities necessary to facilitate such consolidation shall be prioritized and expedited.

Current law provides a form for a petition or resolution to consolidate ambulance districts. This act adds language to that form that requires the consolidated district to be named at the time the form is submitted.

Under the provisions of this act, when a petition or resolution is filed, it must be filed with a consolidation plan that will outline the proposed consolidation process. The consolidation plan must include the names of the districts to be consolidated, the tax to be levied, the name of the district responsible for maintaining ambulance service during the consolidation, the proposed number of board members, and a time line for consolidation.

This act requires that each of the ambulance districts that seeks to consolidate must publish notice of the intent to consolidate in a newspaper of general circulation in every county that will be served by the consolidated district. This notice shall be posted once a week for two consecutive weeks. Within thirty days of the second publication, the ambulance districts seeking to consolidate must hold a public hearing on the matter.

Under current law, an ambulance district can only consolidate if it is approved by voters. Under this act, a vote on consolidation occurs only if an objection to the consolidation is filed.

Objections must be signed by no less than five percent of the votes cast for governor in the most recent gubernatorial election in the district. If no objection is filed within thirty days of the public hearing on consolidation, within forty-five days of the public hearing, the county commission shall order the districts consolidated.

Upon consolidation, the district may impose a tax levy up to the highest tax levy of the consolidating districts, if such tax levy was specified in the ballot language submitted to and approved by the voters of the consolidating districts. If there is no vote taken on consolidation, the district can not impose a property or sales tax rate that is greater than the lowest of any existing rate within any of the districts to be consolidated.

Upon consolidation, all assets and obligation of the existing ambulance districts shall become the assets and obligations of the consolidated district.

This act modifies the Critical Incident Stress Management Program. Under current law, all peace officers and first responders are required to have a mental health check-in with a program service provider once every three to five years. This act allows a peace officer or first responder to satisfy this requirement if they participate in an established behavioral health or mental health program that meets enumerated requirements. This act also adds first responder commanding officers to the list of people approved to receive notification that the check-in requirement has been met.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health and Senior Services
Office of the Secretary of State
Department of Mental Health
Department of Public Safety - Office of the Director
City of Kansas City
Jackson County Election Board
Kansas City Election Board
Platte County Board of Elections
St. Louis City Board of Elections
St. Louis County Board of Elections
Phelps County Sheriff's Office
Branson Police Department
Kansas City Police Department

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Page 8 of 8

June 16, 2026

St. Louis County Police Department
State Tax Commission
Eastern Clay Ambulance District



Julie Morff
Director
June 16, 2026



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
June 16, 2026