

SESSION OF 2014

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 320

As Amended by Senate Committee on Federal
and State Affairs

Brief*

SB 320, as amended, would modify the composition of the Medical Advisory Council of the Board of Emergency Medical Services and would authorize the Board to impose fines, issue subpoenas and investigate violations as specified in the bill. The number of Board members who are physicians and who also must serve on a Medical Advisory Council would be reduced from two to one, and the number of other physicians serving on the Council would be increased from four to five. The bill also would modify the title of the Board's staff chief from Administrator to Executive Director. The Board would be required to submit annual reports to the Legislature with information about the fines imposed and subpoenas issued as part of its activities conducted.

Background

Under current law, the Board of Emergency Medical Services does not have authority to impose fines, or to subpoena non-regulated entities for certain records and to compel attendance by witnesses. The Board's authority is limited by statute to conduct hearings for all regulatory matters related to emergency medical services and to modify or revoke licenses and permits of practitioners and services regulated by the Board.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Proponents testifying at the Senate Committee hearing included Senator Faust-Goudeau and the Executive Director of the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Two letters in opposition to the bill were noted from the Mid-America Regional Council and the Office of Medical Director, Wichita and Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Services System.

The Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs added a provision requiring annual reports to the Legislature regarding the use of fines and subpoenas in its operations and the regulation of the licensees of the Board.

The fiscal note indicated the Board of Emergency Medical Services could not estimate the additional revenue that might be generated by fines, nor how many violations might result in fines or in the use of subpoenas.