

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FISCAL NOTE STATEMENT
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

MEASURE

2024 BR NUMBER 147

HOUSE BILL NUMBER 416

TITLE AN ACT relating to emergency medical services and making an appropriation therefor.

SPONSOR Representative Mark Hart

FISCAL SUMMARY

STATE FISCAL IMPACT: YES NO UNCERTAIN

OTHER FISCAL STATEMENT(S) THAT MAY APPLY: ACTUARIAL ANALYSIS
 LOCAL MANDATE CORRECTIONS IMPACT HEALTH BENEFIT MANDATE

APPROPRIATION UNIT(S) IMPACTED: Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services

FUND(S) IMPACTED: GENERAL ROAD FEDERAL RESTRICTED Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF) and Firefighters Foundation Program Fund (FFPF)

FISCAL ESTIMATES	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	ANNUAL IMPACT AT FULL IMPLEMENTATION
REVENUES		Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
EXPENDITURES		~\$86,687,300	~\$86,687,300	Indeterminable
NET EFFECT		Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable

() indicates a decrease/negative

PURPOSE OF MEASURE: This measure establishes the EMS Professionals Foundation Program fund, from which eligible EMS professionals would receive an annual training incentive payment of \$4,800, reimbursement for mental health costs stemming from their employment, as well as associated employer contributions to retirement plans not to exceed that of the County Employees Retirement System hazardous duty plan.

HB 416 defines an EMS professional as an employee licensed as an emergency medical technician (EMT), advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT), paramedic, or an advanced practice paramedic of an ambulance service. It is unclear whether an emergency medical responder (EMR) would qualify for eligibility.

FISCAL EXPLANATION: The precise cost of HB 416 is subject to 1) the annual number of eligible recipients, as determined by the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services, and subject to no other incentive payment being provided by the KLEFPF or FFPF, 2) the retirement plan each recipient participates in, and 3) the number of participants who seek reimbursement for mental health costs stemming from qualified, job-related incidents.

Based on these caveats, below is a cost analysis of the maximum potential impact based on available data.

Recipient	Count ¹	Incentive	Retirement**	Total
EMR*	482	2,313,600	549,249	2,862,849
EMT	9,335	44,808,000	10,637,419	55,445,419
AEMT	486	2,332,800	553,807	2,886,607
Paramedic	4,292	20,601,600	4,890,820	25,492,420
Total	14,595	70,056,000	16,631,294	86,687,294

Note:

*This calculation includes EMRs in the event these personnel are eligible for participation.

**Retirement contributions are based on an employer contribution rate of 23.74% of pay.

The above cost analysis does not factor in any participant's potential reimbursement for mental health services and is indeterminable.

Please note that because the EMS Professionals Foundation Program fund will share revenues with the KLEFPF and FFPF, current revenues are unable to support all three funds at the current insurance premium surcharge rate (1.8%). Therefore, HB 416 would require an increase in the insurance premium surcharge rate.

DATA SOURCE(S): KY Board of Emergency Medical Services' website and LRC staff.

PREPARER: Zach Ireland NOTE NUMBER: 38 REVIEW: JB DATE: 1/31/2024

¹ Data sourced from the KY Board of Emergency Medical Services (<https://kbems.ky.gov/About/Pages/default.aspx>)