
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 140 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, PENNYCUICK, BARTOLOTTA AND HUTCHINSON,
JUNE 30, 2023

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, JUNE 30, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Human Services of the Commonwealth to
2 submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and
3 Medicaid Services to provide reimbursement for emergency
4 medical services for the nontransport of Medicaid patients,
5 and urging the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to
6 expeditiously review and approve the state plan amendment
7 submitted by the Department of Human Services.

8 WHEREAS, According to the Office of Attorney General, 5,168
9 Pennsylvanians died from overdoses in 2021; and

10 WHEREAS, On average, 15 Pennsylvanians died every day from an
11 overdose in 2021; and

12 WHEREAS, The introduction of overdose reversal medications
13 and Statewide orders to ensure free access to these tools in
14 2015 for emergency personnel has undoubtedly saved thousands of
15 lives throughout this Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, Emergency medical services providers are required to
17 carry overdose reversal products like Naloxone and to administer
18 them free of charge to those they treat; and

19 WHEREAS, The substance-use-related and nonsubstance-use-
20 related calls that do not result in a transport to a hospital or

1 treatment facility are costly to the emergency medical services
2 providers on scene that are not reimbursed by the Medical
3 Assistance program for their response or the treatment that they
4 provide to Medical Assistance beneficiaries; and

5 WHEREAS, Emergency medical services providers should be made
6 financially whole as their communities, constituents and health
7 care systems depend on them; and

8 WHEREAS, A state plan is an agreement between a state and the
9 Federal Government describing how that state administers its
10 Medical Assistance programs; and

11 WHEREAS, When a state is seeking to change its program
12 policies or operational approach, the state must submit a state
13 plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
14 for review and approval; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
16 urge the Department of Human Services of the Commonwealth to
17 submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and
18 Medicaid Services to provide reimbursement for emergency medical
19 services for the nontransport of Medicaid patients, and urge the
20 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to expeditiously
21 review and approve the state plan amendment submitted by the
22 Department of Human Services; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
24 the Department of Human Services and the Centers for Medicare
25 and Medicaid Services upon its adoption.