

## SENATE BILL No. 351

By Senator Emler

1-23

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AN ACT concerning Kansas educational institutions; establishing a program to provide financial assistance for certain emergency medical services providers.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the emergency medical services provider educational assistance act.

(b) It is the purpose of this act to establish an educational assistance program under which payment of the tuition and fees charged eligible emergency medical services providers for enrollment at Kansas educational institutions shall be provided by the state.

Sec. 2. As used in the emergency medical services provider educational assistance act:

(a) "Kansas educational institution" means any area vocational school, area vocational-technical school, community college, municipal university, state educational institution, technical college or accredited independent institution.

(b) "Eligible emergency medical services provider" or "eligible provider" means a person who volunteers as an attendant as defined by K.S.A. 65-6112, and amendments thereto, who is a resident of Kansas and who is enrolled at a Kansas educational institution.

(c) "Emergency medical services provider educational assistance program" or "program" means the program established pursuant to the provisions of the emergency medical services provider educational assistance act.

(d) "Educational program" means a program which is offered and maintained by a Kansas educational institution and leads to the award of a certificate, diploma or degree upon satisfactory completion of coursework requirements.

Sec. 3. The state board of regents shall adopt rules and regulations for administration of the emergency medical services provider educational assistance act and shall:

(a) Establish a mechanism to ensure distribution of funds for tuition and fee reimbursement to Kansas educational institutions;

(b) develop and effectuate a system of accountability for all disburse-

1 ments under the program and provide written reports as prescribed; and  
2 (c) coordinate with the administrator of the emergency medical serv-  
3 ices board a procedure to ensure initial and on-going eligibility of all  
4 attendants who are program participants.

5 Sec. 4. (a) Subject to the availability of appropriations for the emer-  
6 gency medical services provider educational assistance program and  
7 within the limits of any such appropriations, every eligible provider who  
8 is enrolled at a Kansas educational institution and who is participating in  
9 the program shall be paid the amount of tuition and required fees charged  
10 by the Kansas educational institution for enrollment in courses necessary  
11 to satisfy the requirements of an educational program.

12 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), an eligible pro-  
13 vider shall not be paid the amount of tuition and required fees charged  
14 for any course repeated or taken in excess of the requirements for com-  
15 pletion of the educational program in which the provider is enrolled. The  
16 amount of tuition and required fees paid an eligible provider pursuant to  
17 subsection (a) shall be at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate that  
18 would be charged by the state educational institutions for enrollment of  
19 the eligible provider.

20 Sec. 5. (a) In order to qualify for participation in the emergency med-  
21 ical services provider educational assistance program, an eligible provider  
22 must agree in writing to continue service as a volunteer attendant, plus  
23 six months service for each semester, or part thereof, of assistance  
24 received.

25 (b) In order to remain eligible for participation in the program, an  
26 eligible provider must remain in good standing at the Kansas educational  
27 institution where enrolled, make satisfactory progress toward completion  
28 of the requirements of the educational program in which enrolled, and  
29 maintain certification as an attendant pursuant to K.S.A. 65-6101, *et seq.*,  
30 and amendments thereto. The provider shall present the certificate to the  
31 educational institution, in order to obtain a payment under this act. The  
32 certificate shall be presented at the time payment is requested for com-  
33 pleted courses.

34 (c) Upon failure of any person, who as an eligible provider received  
35 payments under this act, to satisfy the agreement to continue service as  
36 a volunteer attendant as provided by subsection (a), such person shall pay  
37 to the state of Kansas an amount equal to the total amount received. All  
38 amounts paid to the state under this subsection shall be deposited in the  
39 state treasury and credited to the emergency medical services provider  
40 educational assistance program repayment fund created by section 6, and  
41 amendments thereto.

42 Sec. 6. There is hereby created in the state treasury the emergency  
43 medical services provider educational assistance program repayment

1 fund. The state board of regents shall remit all moneys received under  
2 section 5, and amendments thereto, to the state treasurer at least monthly.  
3 Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit  
4 the entire amount thereof in the state treasury, and such amount shall be  
5 credited to the emergency medical services provider educational assis-  
6 tance program repayment fund. All expenditures from the emergency  
7 medical services provider educational assistance program repayment fund  
8 shall be for payments of assistance under the emergency medical services  
9 provider educational assistance act, and shall be made in accordance with  
10 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports  
11 issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the executive officer of the state  
12 board of regents or a person designated by the executive officer.

13 Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
14 publication in the statute book.

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