

SESSION OF 2004

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE
SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 351**

As Amended by Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Brief*

Senate Sub. for SB 351 provides financial assistance for training and certain educational expenses for Emergency Medical Service attendants.

SB 351, as amended by the Committee on Ways and Means, establishes the Emergency Medical Services Training and Educational Assistance Act and Repayment Fund. The amended provisions direct the Board of Emergency Medical Services to establish standards and criteria for the allocation and distribution of grants to eligible ambulance services. Grants would be awarded only to ambulance services in underserved areas of the state, with the first priority given to applications seeking grants to finance the cost of initial training courses, and the second being applications for continuing education.

The bill, as amended, allows an ambulance service to establish a program to pay the costs of training for volunteer members under the provisions of the bill, and establishes the following criteria to qualify for financial assistance:

- ! an instructor-coordinator or training officer, upon qualifying and accepting financial assistance, must continue services as a volunteer attendant for at least one year following completion of training;
- ! for an eligible attendant to qualify for financial assistance for training in a medically related field of study, the attendant must agree to continue serving as a volunteer attendant, plus six months of service for each semester of assistance received.

*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>

Failure of any person (who received payments) to provide continued service as a volunteer attendant, would require repayment to the Board of Emergency Medical Services an amount equal to what was received.

Background

SB 351, as originally introduced, would have established a program to provide tuition assistance for Emergency Medical Services providers who are enrolled in a vocational school, vocational-technical school, community college, Washburn University, Regents university, technical college, or accredited independent institution, and authorized a refund of tuition and fee expenses paid by the above-listed educational institutions. The State Board of Regents would establish rules and regulations for the administration of the bill.