

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Medical Transportation Program  
Non-Emergency Medical Transportation  
(LAC 50:XXVII.541)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:XXVII.541 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

Federal regulations require minimum liability insurance for any vehicle with a seating capacity of 15 passengers or less, including the driver, for interstate non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) travel. The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing provider enrollment in the NEMT program to increase the minimum liability insurance for providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services in order to comply with the federal requirements for interstate NEMT travel.

**Title 50**

**PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
Part XXVII. Medical Transportation Program**

**Chapter 5. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation**

**Subchapter C. Provider Responsibilities**

**§541. Provider Enrollment**

A. - C. ...

D. As a condition of participation for out-of-state transport, providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services must be in compliance with all applicable federal intrastate commerce laws regarding such transportation, including but not limited to, the \$1,500,000 insurance requirement.

E. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 20:1115-1117 (October 1994), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 42:1092 (July 2016), LR 46:694 (May 2020), LR 47:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

**Family Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

**Poverty Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

**Small Business Analysis**

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule may negatively impact some small businesses, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq., as increased insurance rates could result in additional costs for some.

**Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on

staffing level requirements or qualifications changes in order to provide the same level of service, but may increase direct or indirect cost to some providers to provide the same level of service due to the increase in liability insurance costs. The proposed Rule may also have a negative impact on some providers' ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170 if the increase in costs adversely impacts the provider's financial standing.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Tara A. LeBlanc, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. LeBlanc is responsible for responding to this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at close of business, 4:30 p.m., on January 29, 2021.

#### **Public Hearing**

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on January 11, 2021. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on January 28, 2021 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth

Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after January 11, 2021. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage, which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person  
Preparing  
Statement: Veronica Dent Dept.: Health

Phone: 342-3238 Office: Bureau of Health Services Financing

Return  
Address: PO Box 91030 Rule  
Title: Medical Transportation Program

Baton Rouge, LA Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

Date Rule  
Takes Effect: March 20, 2021

SUMMARY  
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed Rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 20-21. It is anticipated that \$540 (\$270 SGF and \$270 FED) will be expended in FY 20-21 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will have no effect on revenue collections other than the federal share of promulgation costs for FY 20-21. It is anticipated that \$270 will be collected in FY 20-21 for the federal share of the expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing provider enrollment in the non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program in order to increase the minimum liability insurance for providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services to comply with federal requirements for interstate NEMT travel. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased costs to NEMT providers in FY 20-21, FY 21-22 and FY 22-23 due to the increase in the required level of insurance for out-of-state transports

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This rule has no known effect on competition and employment.

Tara A. LeBlanc  
Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Tara A. LeBlanc, Interim Medicaid Executive Director  
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee  
12-10-2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

Alan M. Bostery  
Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

12/18/20  
Date of Signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing provider enrollment in the non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program in order to increase the minimum liability insurance for providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services to comply with federal requirements for interstate NEMT travel.

- B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Federal regulations require minimum liability insurance for any vehicle with a seating capacity of 15 passengers or less, including the driver, for interstate non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) travel. The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing provider enrollment in the NEMT program to increase the minimum liability insurance for providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services in order to comply with the federal requirements for interstate NEMT travel.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No, it is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 20-21. In FY 20-21 \$540 is included for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22
Personal Services			
Operating Expenses	\$540	\$0	\$0
Professional Services			
Other Charges			
Equipment			
Major Repairs & Constr.			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$540</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

POSITIONS (#)

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

In FY 20-21, \$540 will be spent for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22
State General Fund	\$270	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated Dedicated			
Federal Funds	\$270	\$0	\$0
Other (Specify)			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$540</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes, sufficient funds are available to implement this proposed rule and final rule.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

This proposed rule has no known impact on local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

There is no known impact on the sources of local governmental unit funding.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22
State General Fund			
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated Funds*			
Federal Funds	\$270	\$0	\$0
Local Funds			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$270</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

In FY 20-21, \$270 will be collected for the federal share of the administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

This proposed rule amends the provisions governing provider enrollment in the non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) program in order to increase the minimum liability insurance for providers of transportation to out-of-state medical or behavioral health services to comply with federal requirements for interstate NEMT travel.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will result in increased costs to NEMT providers in FY 20-21, FY 21-22 and FY 22-23 due to the increase in the required level of insurance for out-of-state transports.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

This rule has no known effect on competition and employment.