

Fiscal Note

BILL # SB 1068

TITLE: ~~election board workers; political party~~ S/E: police dogs; emergency treatment

SPONSOR: Kavanagh

STATUS: As Amended by House MAPS

PREPARED BY: Maggie Rocker

Description

The bill, as amended by House MAPS, would allow emergency medical care technicians (EMCTs) to provide emergency care and transportation for police dogs injured while in the line of duty.

Estimated Impact

We do not think the bill would result in a material impact to the state, if any. We also do not anticipate a significant impact to individual law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Public Safety.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) has indicated that they do not expect a direct fiscal impact.

Analysis

DHS is responsible for certifying EMCTs, which includes emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency technicians, and paramedics. Currently, emergency treatment and transportation of police dogs injured in the line of duty are not within the scope of practice for EMCTs in Arizona.

The bill would require Arizona ambulance providers to authorize trained EMCTs to provide emergency care and treatment for injured police dogs, so long as there is not a person requiring medical attention concurrently. To implement, ambulance services may develop procedures related to training, safe handling of injured canines, identification of local veterinary facilities, and decontamination and sterilization of equipment and emergency vehicles.

While DHS is responsible for certifying EMCTs and regulating ambulance providers in Arizona, the department does not expect a direct fiscal impact as a result of the proposed legislation.

The bill may still have an impact on individual law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Public Safety. The current ground ambulance rate schedule in Arizona ranges between \$847 and \$3,147. In the event an injured canine must be transported via ambulance to a veterinary facility for emergency treatment, we believe the cost to law enforcement entities may increase. However, if the administration of emergency treatment by EMCTs and/or the provision of emergency transport results in a police dog living and continuing to perform in the line of duty when it may have otherwise died or retired, law enforcement entities may realize net savings associated with training costs of a new dog. According to the National Police Dog Foundation, police dog training can cost \$12,000-\$15,000 total per dog.

Based on the available information for the number of police dog deaths reported each year, we do not expect emergency transportation to occur at a high enough frequency to generate a material fiscal impact to any one department or locality.

Local Government Impact

See above.

4/6/23

