

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1254

Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson

February 19, 2021

An act to add Section 1371.57 to the Health and Safety Code, and to add Section 10126.67 to the Insurance Code, relating to health care coverage.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1254, as introduced, Gipson. Health care coverage: mobile stroke units.

Existing law, the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975, provides for licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care and makes a willful violation of that act a crime. Existing law also provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Existing law imposes certain requirements on health care service plans and health insurance policies, including requirements relating to coverage for ambulance services, as specified.

This bill would require a health care service plan or a health insurance policy that is issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022, that provides coverage for emergency health care services to include coverage for services performed by a mobile stroke unit, as defined by the bill.

Because a willful violation of the bill's requirement by a health care service plan would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1371.57 is added to the Health and Safety
2 Code, immediately following Section 1371.55, to read:

3 1371.57. (a) A health care service plan issued, amended, or
4 renewed on or after January 1, 2022, that provides coverage for
5 emergency health care services shall include coverage for services
6 provided by a mobile stroke unit.

7 (b) For purposes of this section, “mobile stroke unit” means a
8 state-recognized mobile unit facility that serves as a hybrid
9 emergency response ambulance and operates under the direction
10 of a local emergency services agency to provide emergency
11 treatment, imaging, and transportation for patients suffering from
12 a stroke.

13 SEC. 2. Section 10126.67 is added to the Insurance Code,
14 immediately following Section 10126.65, to read:

15 10126.67. (a) A health insurance policy issued, amended, or
16 renewed on or after January 1, 2022, that provides coverage for
17 emergency health care services shall include coverage for services
18 performed by a mobile stroke unit.

19 (b) For purposes of this section, “mobile stroke unit” means a
20 state-recognized mobile unit facility that serves as a hybrid
21 emergency response ambulance and operates under the direction
22 of a local emergency services agency to provide emergency
23 treatment, imaging, and transportation for patients suffering from
24 a stroke.

25 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
26 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
27 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
28 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
29 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
30 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of

- 1 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
- 2 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
- 3 Constitution.

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