

LRB-RESEARCH & ANALYSIS SECTION ANALYSIS MARCH 29, 2007 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE	ITEM 9, FILE # 061539 EMMA J. STAMPS
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File # 061539 is an ordinance relating to ambulance conveyance rates and ancillary charges for services rendered by certified private ambulance companies.

Background and Discussion

- Section 75-15-14 of the Milwaukee Code requires the commissioner of health to review and report annually to the common council ambulance conveyance rates established under Sec. 75-15-14-c and recommend, if appropriate, an adjustment in the conveyance rate.
- In regards to Basic Life Support (BLS) charges billed by certified private ambulance companies (Privates), this ordinance does the following:

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT ITEMS - PRIVATES	Current	Proposed
Residents, conveyances	\$ 396	\$ 410
Non-residents, conveyances	\$ 458	\$ 474
Non-invasive service w/o transport for residents	\$ 75	\$ 50
Non-invasive service w/o transport for non-residents	\$ 75	\$ 100
Oxygen and supplies	\$33 + supplies	\$ 75
Mileage	\$ 11.75	\$ 12
Other basic life support ancillary charges (75-15-15)	See Schedule	Increase 15%

- Increases the amount charged for both BLS and BLS-Emergency ambulance conveyances for the two categories of patients established by the code, *residents* of the City of Milwaukee and *non-residents* by 2.5%, from \$396 to \$410 and from \$458 to \$474, respectively.
 - Adjusts the \$75 non-transport fee that is applicable to BLS patients who are residents at \$50, and for non-residents at \$100.
 - Restructures and increases charges for ‘oxygen’ plus ‘oxygen delivery devices’ (\$33 + \$13.70) as a flat \$75 ‘oxygen and supplies’ charge.
 - Increases the mileage rate from \$11.75 to \$12.00, the same level authorized for the MFD.
 - Increases the ancillary charges that may be billed by Privates by 15%, with the exception of oxygen and non-transport fees (see above). These charges were last increased in 1999.
- In regards to Advanced Life Support (ALS), this ordinance includes a ‘me too’ paragraph granting Privates that perform an advanced life support (ALS) conveyance under the terms of the Private Provider Interfacility Unit protocol permission to charge for those services using the MFD fee schedule pursuant to s. 75-15-17 a to d. These charges shall in no way be construed so as to circumvent the role of the fire department as the designated responder to ALS calls.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact is nominal since police prisoner transport by private ambulance will be charged 60% of the established rate (charged to MPD in the event that the prisoner is unable to pay).