



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 311**

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 429

*Senate, April 1, 2026*

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-273 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3 (a) On and after April 1, 1983, the Commissioner of Social Services  
4 shall increase the payment rate for ambulance rides eligible under the  
5 state medical assistance program. Subject to federal approval, beginning  
6 with the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Social  
7 Services shall, within available appropriations, revise the payment  
8 methodology for ambulance services under the Medicaid program to  
9 apply a relative value unit system similar to the payment methodology  
10 used in the Medicare program. The basic life support nonemergency  
11 transport shall be designated as the base rate with the relative value unit  
12 system applied to basic life support nonemergency transports, basic life  
13 support emergency transports, advanced life support nonemergency  
14 transports, advanced life support emergency transports and paramedic

15 intercept services. For purposes of this section, "relative value unit"  
16 means a numeric value for ambulance services relative to the value of a  
17 base level ambulance service.

18 (b) On and after July 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Social Services  
19 shall base the out-of-district mileage calculation for ambulance services  
20 reimbursed under the state medical assistance program on the distance  
21 traveled by an ambulance with the patient onboard from the point of  
22 patient pickup to the destination, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of a  
23 mile. An ambulance service may use any reasonable and verifiable  
24 method to document such mileage, including, but not limited to, global  
25 positioning system data, navigation or dispatch computer systems or  
26 commercially available mapping routing programs. The commissioner  
27 shall require an ambulance service provider to maintain documentation  
28 of such mileage as part of the patient care record, including, but not  
29 limited to, a trip report with the name of the patient and street address  
30 of the patient pickup point and destination.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	17b-273

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*

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*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill changes the basis for calculating out-of-district mileage for ambulance services reimbursed under the state medical assistance program, which is not anticipated to result in a net impact to the Department of Social Services.<sup>1</sup>

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

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<sup>1</sup> Based on a sample of 4,750 trips that were reimbursed on a "town to town" payment structure versus paying for actual mileage

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**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 429*****AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION.*****SUMMARY**

This bill sets requirements for how the Department of Social Services (DSS) calculates mileage to reimburse ambulance services under the state medical assistance program (which includes Medicaid). Specifically, the bill requires the DSS commissioner to calculate out-of-district mileage for these services based on an ambulance's distance traveled with the patient onboard from the point of patient pickup to the destination, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of a mile.

The bill allows an ambulance service to use any reasonable and verifiable method to document mileage, including global positioning system (GPS) data, navigation or dispatch computer systems, or commercially available mapping routing programs. Under the bill, the DSS commissioner must require ambulance service providers to maintain mileage documentation in the patient care record, including a trip report with the patient's name, street address, pickup point, and destination.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23    Nay 0    (03/19/2026)