



Elizabeth K. Mase

Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 529

123rd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Taylor, Britton, Grendell, D. Miller, Pringle, Redfern

BILL SUMMARY

- Increases the cap on the amount of reimbursement that an injured person, a personal representative of an injured person, or an attending physician may receive from a board of county commissioners for expenses related to the medical or surgical treatment of a rabies bite from \$200 to \$1,500.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Under current law, if a person is "bitten or injured" (hereafter, injury) by an animal afflicted with rabies and if the person receives medical or surgical treatment or expends money due to the injury, the person may present an itemized account of the expenses incurred and the amount paid by the person for "medical and surgical attendance," to the appropriate board of county commissioners at a regular meeting of the board that occurs within four months of the injury. The itemized account must be accompanied by affidavits of the person and the person's attending physician verifying the itemizations.¹ (Sec. 955.42--not in the bill.)

The board of county commissioners then must examine the itemized account not later than the third regular meeting after it is presented with the account and, if the account is found "in whole or part correct and just," must order payment "to the patient and to the [attending] physician . . . in accordance with their respective claims." However, a person cannot receive more than \$200 for one injury. (Sec. 955.41.)

¹ *If the person is deceased, the administrator or executor of the person's estate may execute the person's affidavit and the person's "claim" (presumably the account and both affidavits) to the board. If the person is a minor, the minor's parent or guardian may execute the minor's affidavit and presumably present the account and both affidavits to the board. The "appropriate" board is the board of county commissioners of the county where the "injury" was received. (Sec. 955.42.)*

The bill increases the latter amount from \$200 to \$1,500 (sec. 955.41).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	12-30-99	p. 1473

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