

# Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board

**House Human Services Subcommittee**

*Sean S. Fouts, Budget Analyst*

*Legislative Service Commission*

*February 26, 2003*

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**LSC Redbook**  
**for the**  
**Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board**

**House Human Services Subcommittee**

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*February 26, 2003*

# Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board

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- Funding comes from fees paid by licensees
- Approximately 130 private ambulance service companies and approximately 1000 ambulances are currently licensed annually

## OVERVIEW

The Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board is responsible for the identification, inspection, and licensure of approximately 130 private ambulance services and approximately 1000 vehicles that are operated by those services. Private ambulance services include commercial for-profit ambulance services, funeral homes that provide patient transport, and hospital based mobile intensive care units (MoICUs). While the number of service providers has decreased due to the acquisition of very small business operations by larger operations, the number of ambulances has remained stable due to an increasing demand for transport services.

The Board sustains its operations through annual license fees paid by private ambulance companies and fines levied against these companies that violate state laws and regulations. The Board charges \$100 to each entity and an additional \$100 for each vehicle in operation. For any service that also requires local licensing, the Board's fee is reduced by 50%.

The Ambulance Licensing Board has six members with an office staff of three people. The Board also pays 24 independent contractors who serve as field inspectors. Currently, the Board is in the midst of a major initiative to move to a paperless system. The Board expects the paperless system to speed up the inspections process by allowing inspectors to send information to the Board more quickly and accurately.

## ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

### Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board

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**Purpose:** Inspects and licenses all private ambulance services and their vehicles

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund this program series, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2004	FY 2005
4N1	915-601	Operating Expenses	\$272,340	\$284,054
<b>Total funding: Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board</b>			<b>\$272,340</b>	<b>\$284,054</b>

### Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board

**Program Description:** In accordance with Chapter 4766. of the Revised Code, the Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board inspects and licenses all private ambulance services and the vehicles operated by these services within the state.

**Funding Source:** Funds for the Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board come from two sources, license fees and fines. Revenue is deposited into Fund 4N1.

**Line Items:** 915-601 Operating Expenses

**Implication of the Executive Recommendation:** The Governor's recommended budget increases appropriation authority in FY 2004 by 8.4% over anticipated spending in FY 2003. Appropriation authority in FY 2005 represents a 4.3% increase over FY 2004 authority. Additional funding was given in order to allow the Board to hire an Office Assistant III instead of an Administrative Assistant II. The Governor's recommended budget will allow the Board to continue operations in accordance with the Revised Code.

## ADDITIONAL FACTS AND FIGURES

Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board Staffing Levels						
Job Position	2000	2001	2002	2003	Estimated	
					2004	2005
Board Members	6	6	6	6	6	6
Administrative Staff	1	2	2	2	2	2
Executive Director	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

The Board also contracts with 24 independent on-call inspectors who work only when assigned to by the Board.

### Current License Fees

The current fees for an initial or renewal ambulance company license is \$100 per year for the service company and \$100 per vehicle per year. If licensure is also required by the local government, the fees are reduced by 50%.

## **PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY LAW**

There are no permanent or temporary law provisions contained in the executive budget affecting the Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board.

## REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board						
Fund Line Item	FY 2004 Requested	FY 2004 Recommended	Difference	FY 2005 Requested	FY 2005 Recommended	Difference
4N1 915-601	\$25,125	\$21,085	(\$4,040)	\$52,764	\$32,799	(\$19,965)

The Ohio Ambulance Licensing Board requested supplemental funding in the amount of \$25,125 in FY 2004 and \$52,746 in FY 2005 in order to supplement funding of current staff and to hire an additional part-time office assistant. The Governor's requested budget includes \$21,085 in FY 2004 and \$32,799 in FY 2005. The Governor's requested budget will allow the Board to upgrade one position from an Administrative Assistant II to an Office Assistant III.

## General Services Fund Group

### 4N1 915-601 Operating Expenses

2000	2001	2002	2003 Estimate	2004 Executive Proposal	2005 Executive Proposal
\$215,895	\$222,488	\$192,508	\$251,255	<b>\$272,340</b>	<b>\$284,054</b>
	3.1%	-13.5%	30.5%	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

**Source:** GSF: Money comes from annual license fees and fines charged to private ambulance companies.

**Legal Basis:** Section 20 of Am. Sub. H.B. 94 of the 124th G.A. and ORC 4766.05 (originally established by Sub. S.B. 98 of the 119th G.A.)

**Purpose:** This appropriation supports the activities of the Ambulance Licensing Board, which includes the licensing and regulation of all private ambulance companies operating in the state. Funds in this line item are used to pay the board's administrative costs, including payroll, maintenance, and equipment.

**LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2004 - FY 2005**

<i>Fund</i>	<i>ALI</i>	<i>ALI Title</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>Estimated 2003</i>	<i>Executive 2004</i>	<i>% Change 2003 to 2004</i>	<i>Executive 2005</i>	<i>% Change 2004 to 2005</i>
<b>AMB Ambulance Licensing Board</b>								
4N1	915-601	Operating Expenses	\$ 192,508	\$251,255	\$ 272,340	8.4%	\$ 284,054	4.3%
<b>General Services Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 192,508</b>	<b>\$ 251,255</b>	<b>\$ 272,340</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>\$ 284,054</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>Total All Budget Fund Groups</b>			<b>\$ 192,508</b>	<b>\$ 251,255</b>	<b>\$ 272,340</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>\$ 284,054</b>	<b>4.3%</b>