

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 353</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>ENGR</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sen. Rice/Rep. Cox</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>March 19, 2009</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>\$7,367</b>

**Bill Summary**

Research Analyst: Marcia Goff

Engrossed SB 353 creates the Volunteer Health Care Services Act which provides that a physician, surgeon, dentist, optometrist, or other health care provider does not require a special license or certificate to provide health care services voluntarily. The bill requires a sponsoring organization that provides volunteer medical services to register with the Oklahoma State Department of Health and to submit a \$50.00 registration fee and exempts the volunteer provider from liability for civil damages unless caused by gross negligence or misconduct. Finally, the measure provides tort immunity for any volunteer crisis response team member who participates in a crisis intervention for any personal injuries or emotional distress of a participant in the crisis intervention caused by an act or omission of a response team member.

**Fiscal Summary**

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Newman

Engrossed SB 353 is new language creating the Volunteer Health Care Services Act, defines terms; permits provision of health care services without a license in certain circumstances, and requires certain organizations to register and pay a fee with the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH). This legislation also provides tort immunity in certain circumstances.

**Fiscal Analysis**

Based on information provided by OSDH, ESB 353 will require 0.2 full-time employees to accomplish the duties imposed by this legislation. The fiscal impact of ESB 353 will be \$7,367 to cover the cost of salaries, travel, and other related costs necessary to support the Volunteer Health Care Services Act.

**Long Term Fiscal Considerations**

ESB 353 will require the development of the necessary infrastructure to register all Oklahoma voluntary health care facilities and all critical incident stress management teams and their affiliated organizations, maintain required quarterly reports submitted by each facility, and prepare and submit any analysis as it affects the desired outcomes related to this legislation.

Fiscal Analysis Reviewed By:

*Janice Buchanan*

House Fiscal Director

