Prepared by the North Dakota Legislative Council staff for the Public Safety Committee
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SUMMARY OF THE BILL DRAFT AND FUNDING ALTERNATIVES RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING GRANTS

This memorandum provides a summary of the bill draft (90148.0100) being considered by the Public Safety Committee relating to emergency medical training grants and related funding alternatives.

BILL DRAFT SUMMARY

The bill draft provides a $100,000 general fund appropriation for the 2009-11 biennium to the State Department of Health for providing emergency medical training grants to rural law enforcement and individuals choosing to become licensed first responders. For the purposes of the bill draft, rural law enforcement is defined as licensed officers from city police departments of cities with a population less than 6,500 and licensed officers from county sheriffs' offices of counties with a population less than 14,000.

According to information provided by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, there are 1,176 licensed law enforcement officers in city police departments and county sheriffs' offices. The following is a summary of the number of law enforcement officers in these departments and offices:

	Urban	Rural	Total
City police departments	534[1]	116	650
County sheriffs' offices	271[2]	255	526
Total	805	371	1,176

[1]The following city police departments are excluded based on the provisions included in the bill draft: Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Mandan, Minot, Valley City, Wahpeton, West Fargo, and Williston.

[2]The following county sheriffs' offices are excluded based on the provisions included in the bill draft: Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, Morton, Richland, Stark, Stutsman, Ward, and Williams.

FUNDING ALTERNATIVES

The estimated cost of first aid and CPR/AED training as provided by the American Red Cross is approximately $150 per person, excluding travel costs. The estimated cost of first responder training as provided by the State Department of Health is $175 to $375 per person. At the present time, the department provides a grant in the amount of $175 to individuals interested in completing first responder training. Funding for this grant is from funding appropriated to the department from the community health trust fund for emergency medical services grants.

The following is a summary of funding alternatives relating to the bill draft being considered:

	Bill Draft Being Considered[1]	Alternative A[2]	Alternative B[4]
General fund appropriation	$100,000	$100,000	$128,400
Number of rural law enforcement eligible for grants	371	642[3]	642
Funding available per person	$270	$155	$200

[1]If the proposed $100,000 general fund appropriation would be used for rural law enforcement as defined in the bill draft being considered by the committee, the funding of $100,000 is equal to approximately $270 per person.

[2]If the bill draft would be amended to remove the limitation relating to county sheriffs' offices, the proposed $100,000 general fund appropriation is equal to approximately $155 per person.

[3]This number represents 116 officers from city police departments and 526 officers from county sheriffs' offices.

[4]A general fund appropriation of $128,400 would be necessary to provide funding of $200 per person to 642 rural law enforcement officers.