

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL NOTE

Date: January 23, 2020
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H.572 An act relating to the Maternal Mortality Review Panel

As Passed by the House Committee on Human Services

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/WorkGroups/House%20Human%20Services/Bills/H.572/Drafts,%20Amendments%20and%20Summaries/H.572~Katie%20McLinn~%20Draft%203.1,%201-21-2020~1-21-2020.pdf>

The Maternal Mortality Review Panel was established in 2011 in 18 V.S.A. § 1552.¹ Currently subsection (b) of the statute includes the following sentence:

“Members of the Panel shall receive no compensation.”

H.572 strikes this language and adds a subsection (h) which states:

“Members of the Panel shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than three meetings annually. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department of Health.”

Estimate Per Diem Costs

According to the Department of Health (VDH) it is assumed that 57% of the costs would be covered through federal grants. Should the Panel meet three times annually, and every member participate and request per diem, the estimated maximum state cost for these per diems would be \$1,916 per year. Actual expenses will likely be lower.

- Daily Rate = \$50 (per diem) + \$76.25 (meals, transportation, other expenses) = \$125.25
- Number of Members = 11
- Maximum number of meetings = 3

$(\$125.25 \text{ Daily Rate}) \times (11 \text{ Members}) \times (3 \text{ Meetings}) \times 43\% \text{ (state share)} = \$1,791$

According to the VDH, this cost can be absorbed within their existing appropriation.

Fiscal Impact: *Nominal. No additional appropriation required.*

¹ Act 35 of 2011