

HB 2539-S - DIGEST

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/14/06)

Declares that a "disaster medical assistance team" means any volunteer team designed to provide medical care during a disaster or other event and who have formed a response team under the guidance of the national disaster medical system which consists of professional and paraprofessional medical personnel and logistical and administration personnel who have been certified by the federal government to serve on such a team.

Provides that, in the event of an emergency or disaster or if there is reasonable cause to believe that an emergency or disaster is imminent, the governor may call a Washington disaster medical assistance team into state service.

Declares that a member of a disaster medical assistance team called into state service shall be afforded all the protections of this act, including the right to workers' compensation and death benefits, if the member provides direct medical care to a victim of an emergency or disaster or provides other support services during an emergency or disaster.

Directs the department to pursue an agreement with the federal government to allow the disaster medical assistance team to use the equipment and supplies available for federal service to be used in response to a call to service by the governor. If an agreement is executed under this provision and there is any use of the federal equipment and supplies, the governor shall include a request for funds necessary to reimburse the federal government in the next budget submission to the legislature. In the event that reimbursement to the federal government is necessary prior to the adoption of the next budget, the governor may reimburse the federal government in the manner described in RCW 38.24.010.