AN ACT CONCERNING PATIENT SAFETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 19a-180 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2009):

(a) No person shall operate any ambulance service, rescue service or management service or otherwise transport in a motor vehicle a patient on a stretcher without either a license or a certificate issued by the commissioner. No person shall operate a commercial ambulance service or commercial rescue service or a management service without a license issued by the commissioner. A certificate shall be issued to any volunteer or municipal ambulance service, rescue service or management service, as defined in subdivision (19) of section 19a-175, unless it meets the requirements of subsection (e) of section 14-100a. Applicants for a license shall use the forms prescribed by the commissioner and shall
submit such application to the commissioner accompanied by an annual fee of one hundred dollars. In considering requests for approval of permits for new or expanded emergency medical services in any region, the commissioner shall consult with the Office of Emergency Medical Services and the emergency medical services council of such region and shall hold a public hearing to determine the necessity for such services. Written notice of such hearing shall be given to current providers in the geographic region where such new or expanded services would be implemented, provided, any volunteer ambulance service which elects not to levy charges for services rendered under this chapter shall be exempt from the provisions concerning requests for approval of permits for new or expanded emergency medical services set forth in this subsection. A primary service area responder in a municipality in which the applicant operates or proposes to operate shall, upon request, be granted intervenor status with opportunity for cross-examination. Each applicant for licensure shall furnish proof of financial responsibility which the commissioner deems sufficient to satisfy any claim. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish satisfactory kinds of coverage and limits of insurance for each applicant for either licensure or certification. Until such regulations are adopted, the following shall be the required limits for licensure: (1) For damages by reason of personal injury to, or the death of, one person on account of any accident, at least five hundred thousand dollars, and more than one person on account of any accident, at least one million dollars, (2) for damage to property at least fifty thousand dollars, and (3) for malpractice in the care of one passenger at least two hundred fifty thousand dollars, and for more than one passenger at least five hundred thousand dollars. In lieu of the limits set forth in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection, a single limit of liability shall be allowed as follows: (A) For damages by reason of personal injury to, or death of, one or more persons and damage to property, at least one million dollars; and (B) for malpractice in the care of one or more passengers, at least five hundred thousand dollars. A certificate of such proof shall be filed
with the commissioner. Upon determination by the commissioner that
an applicant is financially responsible, properly certified and otherwise
qualified to operate a commercial ambulance service, rescue service or
management service, the commissioner shall issue the appropriate
license effective for one year to such applicant. If the commissioner
determines that an applicant for either a certificate or license is not so
qualified, the commissioner shall notify such applicant of the denial of
the application with a statement of the reasons for such denial. Such
applicant shall have thirty days to request a hearing on the denial of
the application.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

| Section 1 | October 1, 2009 | 19a-180(a) |

*PH Joint Favorable*

*JUD Joint Favorable*