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Testimony for HB 5545

Representative Fox, Senator Coleman and members of the Judiciary committee. My name is Rep. Catherine Abercrombie of the 83rd district. I am here to testify in support of HB 5545, sec 1. I would like to thank the chairs for raising this bill.

HB 5545 would enable ambulance companies to collect the costs associated with providing emergency medical treatment and transportation services to patients who require their services.

We know that ambulance personnel are first responders who respond to emergency calls regardless of whether or not the patient has healthcare coverage. They do this at risk to their business, as they do not know if they will be paid or not.

Although in recent years as the cost of rising fuel prices and increased overall expenses have impacted ambulance service providers, they have not shied away from providing emergency services to all people in need.

I urge the committee's support on HB 5545. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this issue.