

Dear P&D Committee,

I am writing to support HB5580 "AN ACT CONCERNING THE PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL, THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PRIMARY SERVICE AREA TASK FORCE AND THE ELIMINATION OF A MUNICIPAL MANDATE".

HB5580 includes all 5 recommendations of the Emergency Medical Services Primary Services Area Task Force. While all of these recommendations will improve delivery of EMS in Connecticut, it is Recommendation #5, The Alternative Provision of PSA Responsibilities, that would allow municipalities to make a change to their state designated EMS provider in the event that the municipality has a plan to improve Improved patient care, create a more efficient allocation of resources, regionalize, or to align with a new EMS provider better suited to meet the community's current needs.

- Recommendation #5 does not offer any guarantees of a change of EMS provider, it simply offers a municipality, which believes that their community can better served by a different EMS provider, the opportunity to have their specific case heard by DPH.
- The current PSA system removes the right of a municipality to consider regional or other cooperative options for the delivery of EMS in their community that can enhance the service in a community or allow for it to be provided more efficiently. Recommendation #5 creates an avenue for municipalities to consider those options.
- There is no notion of competitiveness factored into the market for emergency medical calls. Municipalities may contract with only the provider assigned to them to obtain better performance or higher level of service. Due to the methods of PSA assignment, this service cannot be bid on the open market.

Sincerely,

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