

To The Legislative committee

I am writing in opposition to this Bill. Senate Bill #439 is flawed because it interferes with Statute 7-313 (e). This bill would take away the influence of the senior fire officer on the scene of emergencies that have injuries or patients which would be treated by EMS units.

I have 40 years of service in the fire service including military (USAF and Navy) firefighting service, as well as service in both rural and urban Fire Departments.

I also was in communications for both police, fire and EMS services.

Even after 9/11 when Incident Command was improved and unified, it was recognized that all agencies held responsibilities for their respective area's and said agencies respected and worked together to assist and accent each other's responsibilities. For example;

Police departments responding to an auto accident would secure the area until the fire department deemed or took action to safety the area e.g covering potential fire situations as downed fuel or isolating power lines for safe access by emergency personnel. 7-313(e) did not take away any police responsibilities in investigating or regulating/controlling traffic to safety a scene nor was it intended to.

Traditionally, Fire Departments also have a EMS component to them (R-1) responsibility and take patient care into it's decision making of safe access to patients. Bill #439 threatens to take that away giving untrained EMS personnel the right to place others in harm's way. Please do not let this happen

-Brian D Giesing Meriden Fire Lieutenant (ret)