

ENFIELD FIRE DISTRICT No.1

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

EDWARD N. RICHARDS
FIRE CHIEF

Public Health Committee
Room 3000, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Testimony Re: Senate Bill #439

Dear Honorable Co-Chairs, Ranking Members, and Members:

I am writing to oppose S.B. #439. The proposed bill, as currently written, grants an EMS provider the means to circumvent the Incident Command System (ICS) structure that is required as a component of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and is mandated by OSHA at all hazardous materials incidents. S.B. #439 also is in conflict with CGS 7-313e that provides the senior fire officer (Incident Commander) at an incident scene with command and control of the incident. The current wording in S.B. #439 allows an EMS provider to act without due regard for the incident organization structure and contrary to the incident action plan established by the Incident Commander. Please contact me if I can provide further information or address any questions you may have.

Respectfully yours,



Edward N. Richards
Fire Chief
Enfield Fire District No. 1