



Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services

To: Public Health Committee

March 18, 2014

From: Fire/EMS Chief Walt Cox Colchester CT

Subject: ***AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD. SB #439***

LETTER OF OPPOSITION

I am writing this letter to express my concern and opposition to SB #439 as it currently written.

I serve as Fire/EMS Chief to a 120 member emergency service organization that provides BLS transport and first responder medical care to the 16,500 residents of Colchester CT and its surrounding communities.

I believe SB #439 is in direct conflict with section 7-313e of the general statutes and would diminish the authority of the fire officer during an emergency.

As fire officers in charge of emergency scenes that involve medical treatment, patient care and safety are top priorities.

Under the Incident Command System, we already have in place the best practices and principles that provides a chain of command and communication.

Respectfully,

Walt Cox

Walt Cox

Fire/EMS Chief CHVFD