

March 20, 2015

To the members of the Public Health Committee:

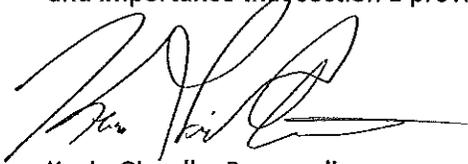
I am writing to you to implore you to support SB999. My name is Kevin Giasullo, I serve as the Administrator of the Emergency Medical Service for the Town of Stratford. We are a Paramedic level (PSAR2/PSAR5) service made up of over 130 Emergency Medical Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics. We respond to over 6300 calls for service each year, almost all of which are medical in nature. I have been a Paramedic for over five (5) years and actively working in the EMS field for over twelve (12).

With regard to SB999 Section 1, I cannot emphasize enough, the useful guidance and support that this section provides EMS responders. The language in section 1 is absolutely necessary to make perfectly clear the roles and responsibilities of all certified or licensed medical providers on scene regardless if they are Police, Fire or EMS. Whether the issue is resource allocation, level of care needed, response or transport decisions, EMS systems need section 1 "spelled out" to avoid any confusion when multiple agencies working within the confines of an emergency medical incident occurs.

It is important to distinguish the differences between a "major incident" from an incident that evolves as a local or regional level event. A "routine" incident which is usually "local" in nature is often handled by a local Police, Fire or EMS agency versus a scene which the National Incident Management System (NIMS) grows and becomes more complex involving all disciplines of public safety.

The intent of the proposal as written should not interfere with **scene authority** or the **Incident Command System (ICS)**. Conversely this bill will establish clear responsibility for patient care activities and reinforce the need and importance of using Unified Incident Command. A unified command system is key to ensuring that all stakeholder agencies are represented evenly and that all factors affecting the scene and patient care are considered. From the EMS perspective, this includes the forward movement and treatment of patients on a medical scene to ensure treatment is appropriately considered by the highest certified or licensed individual who would be working within the confines of both the local medical control system, the regional EMS system and the NIMS/ICS system.

For the reasons above I respectfully request you support SB999 in its entirety , with respect to the intent and importance that section 1 provides for the responsibilities of EMS.



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