



## VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

P.O. Box 837  
DERBY, CONNECTICUT 06418

March 24, 2015

To the members of the Public Health Committee:

I am writing to you to implore you to support SB999. My name is Robert Pettinella, I Serve as the Executive Director and chief of Service for Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc. Valley EMS, Inc. is a regional Paramedic provider that serves the communities of Ansonia, Seymour, Oxford, Derby, Shelton, Monroe. Our service area is 130 square miles with a population of 126,000 residents.

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. EMS systems need section 1 "spelled out" to avoid any confusion when multiple agencies working within the confines of an emergency medical incident occurs. This bill does just that and will alleviate further confusion, or power plays while on the scene of an incident.

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 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

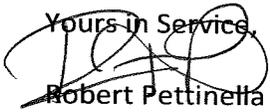
Working proudly in cooperation with:

Ansonia Rescue Medical Service – Echo Hose Ambulance – Griffin Hospital  
Oxford Ambulance Association – Seymour Ambulance Association – Storm Engine Co. Ambulance

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

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pettinella', is written over the typed name.

Robert Pettinella  
Executive Director/Chief