

UNIFORMED PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

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Good afternoon, Honorable Chairs Rep Ritter, Sen. Gerratana, Honorable members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Richard Hart. I represent the Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association of Connecticut which represents 60 Local affiliates of the International Association of Firefighters. Membership in the UPFFA is comprised of approximately 4,000 Union firefighters in Connecticut.

I am submitting testimony in **opposition** of SB 999 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

The UPFFA **opposes** Sect. 1 ONLY of this bill. The language contained is unworkable and unnecessary. Sect 7-313e sets in statute how incident management is to be structured. By opening the door to having EMS providers circumventing the incident command system would be a potential threat to scene and personnel safety. While the overarching principle is to improve patient care, the way this section is worded fails to address any substantive changes to accomplish that. This section also fails to clearly delineate the order of certification necessary for service-wide understanding. There are too many moving parts within the section, therefore, the UPFFA respectfully requests a strike all of section 1, while retaining the remainder of the bill.

Respectfully,

Richard Hart

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DIRECTOR
Legislative/Political Affairs

