

To the members of the Public Health Committee:

The Connecticut EMS Medical Advisory Committee represents the EMS Medical Directors responsible for the actual medical care provided by the first responders, EMT's, AEMT's and Paramedics in the State. We are providing the following as testimony in regard to Senate Bill 999.

Authority of the overall scene should be preserved by the fire service. From the standpoint of best medical practice, the medical decision making capability should be delegated to the EMS medical professional with the highest level of training. The current practice of allowing medical authority to be dictated by anyone other than the highest trained medical provider is not consistent with best medical practice. As the physicians providing medical control authority to these providers, we feel very strongly about this important designation. Our efforts to ensure the highest quality medical care to the citizens of Connecticut by training our EMS providers must not be hindered by denying them proper authority over medical decision-making. In no way does this intend to undermine the overall scene authority and safety provided by the incident command system administered by the fire service.

Please contact me with any questions and concerns, I would be happy to discuss the CT EMS Medical Advisory Board position on this and other bills involving EMS this session. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyle B McClaine, MD, FACEP

Co-Chariman, CT EMS Medical Advisory Committee

EMS Medical Director, Backus Hospital