



Connecticut Department of Public Health

**Testimony Presented Before the Public Health
Committee**

February 24, 2015

**Commissioner Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA
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**Senate Bill 999 - An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations
Regarding Emergency Medical Services**

The Department of Public Health (DPH) supports Senate Bill 999 and would like to thank the Public Health Committee for raising the Department's bill.

Section 1 clarifies that patient care decision making shall be the responsibility of the certified or licensed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel who holds the highest classification of licensure at the scene of an emergency. The intent of this proposal is not to interfere with the scene authority but to provide structure in the decision-making concerning patient care at the scene of an emergency.

Section 2 revises section 19a-177 C.G.S., which concerns the Department's EMS data collection system. The bill establishes a civil penalty of up to \$100 per day for each failure to report required EMS data and sets forth the protocols by which the civil penalty is to be assessed.

Sections 3-12 make various technical and conforming changes to statutes regarding EMS personnel; these statutes were significantly reorganized during the 2014 session within PA 14-231. The language in these sections corrects drafting errors that were inadvertently made within PA 14-231. Also, the following changes are proposed: adding a new definitions section in section 20-206jj C.G.S., and moving additional EMS personnel licensing/certification statutes into title 20.

Thank you for your consideration of the DPH's testimony on this bill.

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