

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB 1010

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee. SB 101 has been raised by the Public Safety and Security Committee. This bill will cause havoc within the EMS community.

My name is Charlee Tufts and I am Executive Director/Chief of Greenwich EMS, and CTEMS Advisory Board, Legislative Chair.

State-wide EMS is appropriately regulated to deliver optimal patient care to all EMS patients. EMS is a carefully integrated system of patient care delivery entities, and **MUST** remain integrated and monitored to assure an organized, efficient response to patient emergencies. SB 1010 will cause extreme disruption to a well-planned local response by DPH assigned Priority Service Area (PSA) responders. Currently there is a process for an application for new or expanded EMS services that assures financial stability, including unnecessary expense (both of the applicant and local government), oversight of operations and patient care, and the need for this new or expanded EMS service.

SB 1010 circumvents the entire process currently in place, and eliminates local government and PSA holders input to EMS response within the community.

Supplemental First Responders was developed to address First Response issues in communities if the assigned PSA First Responder is not able to meet all 911 responses. This must remain a local decision in the best interests of the 911 patients and the coordinated EMS response. Even though this bill requires a Supplemental First Responder to document and coordinate response with current PSA holders in the local EMS plan, it is after the fact, and puts local communities coordinated response at risk. I urge you to take into consideration the effect of this bill on state-wide EMS response and patient care.

Thanks you for your time and consideration.

Charlee Tufts,
Executive Director/ Chief, Greenwich EMS
CTEMS Advisory Board, Legislative Committee Chair