



Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers

Aetna Ambulance :- Ambulance Service of Manchester :- American Ambulance Service
Campion Ambulance Service :- Hunter's Ambulance Service

Testimony of the Association of CT Ambulance Providers

In Opposition to

S.B. No. 1010 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST RESPONDER LICENSES.

The Public Safety and Security Committee *Hearing, March 03, 2015*

Senator Larson, Representative Dargan, and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, the Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony on **SB 1010- An Act Concerning Supplemental First Responder Licenses**. As currently, drafted we have significant concerns of the impact it would have on the integrity of the 911 and emergency medical response system.

The integrity of the Emergency Medical Services response system is comprehensively based within the Connecticut General Statutes 19a-175, 19a-177, 19a-179, 19a-180, and corresponding regulations 19a-179-1 and 19a-179-4. These sections define Primary Service Area (PSA) assignment and establish criteria for the response and delivery of care in each community in the state. Further, CGS section 19a-181b, establishes that each community has and maintains a local EMS plan. These plans are written documents that codify the coordinated activation and deployment of emergency response assets in a community.

Primary Service Areas and Local EMS Plans were the subject of an intense body of work by a legislatively appointed task force in 2014. The resulting legislation modernized the statutes in the Area of PSA's and strengthened the role each community (and its emergency medical service stakeholders) has in the coordinated response and delivery of care.

While the intentions of the organized group behind this effort may be sincere in their attempt to serve a portion of their community, proceeding in this manner independent of the established need for service process and independent of the acknowledgement or support of the local primary service area responders is irresponsible.

This raised bill as we understand it, proposes to isolate a small segment of a community and allow individuals within that segment to serve in an emergency responder role that may very well by its construct, not be able to effectively or consistently integrate with the existing 911 system and coordinated response efforts of the assigned primary service area responders. The concept, if passed will likely fracture the coordinated response protocols of a community, lead to extended response times and even missed responses by the primary service area responders.

We urge the committee to oppose S.B. 1010 (raised) bill and support the process that exists within the Department of Public Health.

Thank you,

David D. Lowell

David D. Lowell, President