



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMTs & PARAMEDICS

(A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES)

### Transportation Committee Members

#### **Please OPPOSE SB 66 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE NONEMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION OF ELDERLY PERSONS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES CONFINED TO A STRETCHER**

The International Association of EMTs and Paramedics (IAEP) is an international labor union with 10,000 members across the country; and 1,000 members in Connecticut.

We respectfully oppose SB 66. We understand that there may be pressure in the medical transportation area to cut costs, and we understand that proposals similar to SB 66 have had support in the past within the CT Legislature.

That being said, our experience around the country has been that “stretcher vans” being operated by persons who are not officially licensed EMS professionals is dangerous for the patient and dangerous for the workers – a bad situation for everyone.

SB 66 attempts to require the “livery permit holders” and “attendants” who are transporting patients to have some training that is “equivalent” to the training required for EMS professionals; but such livery permit holders and attendants are not otherwise required to be tested, or certified, or experienced whatsoever.

Additionally, the definition of a “stretcher van” contained in HB 5389 is quite general – and these vehicles may not be safe at all for some patients who may have serious medical conditions.

Thank you for understanding our opposition to HB 5389.

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