Congressman (woman)

Washington DC 20515

Dear Congressman(woman) :

We are writing to ask for your support for HR 2366, which in the previous congress was known as “The Field EMS Bill,” HR 809.

The Field EMS Bill was originally introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2011 to provide a path toward the vision outlined by the 2006 Institute Of Medicine (IOM) report, Emergency Medical Services: At the Crossroads. The report identified systemic problems in EMS and noted that, while fire and police first responders have several targeted federal support programs, there is no dedicated federal funding stream for field EMS practitioners to ensure their capability to respond to medical emergencies as part of a coordinated emergency care system. In many areas of the nation, EMS services are highly fragmented, poorly equipped, and insufficiently prepared for day-to-day operations, let alone natural or man-made major disasters.

The Field EMS Bill will provide a path out of the crossroads and toward the vision outlined by the IOM without adding to the federal deficit.

The major change to H. R. 2366 from last session’s H. R. 809 is the additional recognition that CMS must move forward to consider additional programs that provide cost savings to Medicare with improved services such as Community Paramedic, Treatment-no-transport, and allowing for payment related to patient transportation to facilities other than hospital emergency departments.

H.R. 2366 addresses many of the challenges EMS systems face while trying to fulfill public expectations that all who need EMS can depend upon the highest quality of care and transport to the most appropriate clinical setting.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Agency