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## Emergency Medical Services Administrator Association of California 2010 Legislative Platform

January 28, 2010

Alameda  
Central California  
Coastal Valleys  
Contra Costa  
El Dorado  
Imperial  
Inland  
Kern  
Los Angeles  
Marin  
Merced  
Monterey  
Mountain-Valley  
North Coast  
Northern California  
Orange  
Riverside  
Sacramento  
San Benito  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
San Joaquin  
San Luis Obispo  
San Mateo  
Santa Barbara  
Santa Clara  
Santa Cruz  
Sierra-Sac Valley  
Solano  
Ventura

The Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association (EMSAAC) is pleased to provide you with EMSAAC's Legislative Platform for the 2010 Legislative Session. EMSAAC is comprised of the 31 local emergency medical services (EMS) agency administrators representing all of California's 58 counties. California's counties, through their local EMS agencies, are responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation of EMS systems throughout the state and ensure that critically ill and injured persons receive prompt and competent emergency medical care. EMSAAC is acutely aware of the dire financial circumstances facing the State of California and has tailored this platform to fit those circumstances.

EMSAAC's top legislative priority is to ensure the continuation of County authority for planning, implementing and evaluating local EMS systems. In 1980, the Legislature enacted the EMS Act, which empowers counties to establish local EMS agencies (LEMSAs) to devise and implement EMS programs. (Health & Safety Code, § 1797.200.) The formation of LEMSAs was and continues to be needed to oversee the varying special interests of both public and private providers, hospitals, and tertiary resources to ensure a coordinated systems approach to the delivery of emergency medical services for the people of California in their most vulnerable moments. As specified in the EMS Act LEMSAs are empowered to create an EMS system to provide for a "specially organized arrangement" involving "personnel, facilities, and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery" of EMS in "emergency conditions." (*Id.*, § 1797.78.)

## **EMSAAC 2010 Legislative Platform**

### EMSAAC Supports:

- Legislation and regulatory measures that maintain or strengthen the authority and governing role of Counties and their LEMSAs to plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects and components of the EMS system.
- Measures that enhance the ability of LEMSA medical director to assure medical control of the EMS system.
- Measures that improve the quality and delivery of EMS and the participation of EMS system providers and hospitals in evidenced based research.
- The continued general fund budget support for multi-county regional EMS agencies.
- Measures that provide for adequate and stable funding for LEMSAs and EMS systems components including but not limited to: EMS administration, trauma systems, specialty centers (e.g. trauma, pediatric, cardiac, stroke), ambulance transport, and uncompensated care by emergency department physicians and on call specialists.

### EMSAAC Opposes:

- Legislation and regulatory measure that weaken the authority and governing role of Counties and their LEMSAs to plan, implement, and evaluate all aspects and components of the EMS system.
- Measures that prevent or weaken the ability of LEMSA medical director to assure medical control of the EMS system.
- Measures that would result in fragmentation of EMS systems and the delivery of prehospital emergency medical care.
- Measures that would allow cities and special districts to provide EMS independent of County/LEMSA administration and medical direction.

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