



June 2, 2008

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Northern California
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Riverside
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San Benito
San Diego
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San Luis Obispo
San Mateo
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz
Sierra-Sac Valley
Solano
Ventura

The Honorable Sheila James Kuehl
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 5108
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2702/Nunez – Oppose – Set for hearing 6/18/08

Dear Senator Kuehl:

The Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC) oppose AB 2702/Nunez, which proposes to reimburse physicians in hospitals maintaining a “standby” emergency status that do not receive 9-1-1 transports. The Maddy EMS Funds were established to offset uncompensated costs that physicians provide in “basic” and “comprehensive” emergency departments. These Regulatory emergency department classifications require 24-hour in house emergency department physician coverage and other services essential to emergency care, such as intensive care units, extensive laboratory and radiology coverage, surgery capability, etc. For these reasons, emergency medical services responders, with very few exceptions, must transport only to a “basic” or “comprehensive” emergency department.

The Maddy Funds often are insufficient to reimburse physicians that participate in our EMS systems; depleting these funds to reimburse physicians that do not receive 9-1-1 patients may threaten further the ability to maintain physician coverage in “basic” and “comprehensive” emergency departments. While we understand that AB 2702 currently only applies to Los Angeles County, the bill sets a precedent that will degrade the integrity of the current and already fragile EMS system.

To assist in maintaining physician coverage in hospitals that receive 9-1-1 patients, we urge a “no” vote on AB 2702.

Very truly yours,

Bruce H. Lee
EMSAAC President

Santa Clara County
EMS Agency Director

cc: The Honorable Fabian Nunez, Speaker Emeritus, California State Assembly
Members, Senate Health Committee
Concepcion Tadeo, Consultant, Senate Committee
Joe Parra, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus