



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

August 20, 2007

The Honorable Tom Torlakson, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 220/Bass – Oppose Unless Amended

Dear Senator Torlakson:

The Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC) represents the local emergency medical services agencies (LEMSAs) that coordinate and regulate the delivery of emergency medical services in California.

AB 220, the Firefighters Procedural Bill of Rights, poses major concerns for EMS agency administrators and agency medical directors relating to the medical control of prehospital care personnel. Additionally, AB 220 imposes unnecessary and expensive mandates upon local agencies by requiring agencies to follow administrative law procedures. EMS agencies ensure the safety of the public by ensuring that the same standards for medical oversight are applied equally to the public and private sector. To remove public sector firefighters from that oversight represents a threat to LEMSA responsibility to protect the health and safety of 9-1-1 patients. Further, EMS agencies already ensure the due process rights of those prehospital care medical personnel whose medical performance is reviewed by the local EMS agency medical director.

EMSAAC opposes AB 220 unless it is amended to delete language relating to “licensing and certifying authorities”. We pledge to continue to work with legislators, their staff, and all groups to ensure legislation that will protect vulnerable patients that depend on prehospital care.

Very truly yours,

Bruce H. Lee, President, EMSAAC
Administrator, Santa Clara County EMS Agency

BL: ba

cc: The Honorable Karen Bass, California State Assembly
Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus