

**MINUTES**  
**CTEMSAB LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Date:** 01/18/24      **Time:** 0900-1000

**Location:** GoTo Meeting. **Call-In Info:** (United States: [+1 \(224\) 501-3412](tel:+12245013412)) **Access Code:** 172-456-077  
<https://meet.goto.com/MikeLoiz/cemsab-legislative-committee-meeting>

**Member Attendees:** Jay Paretzky, Leigh Goodman, Aaron Katz, Judy Reynolds, Ben Zura, Kate Coupe, John Quinlavin, Greg Allard

**Guests:**

**Chaired by:** Loiz, Michael

Topic	Discussion	Action
<b>Meeting Called to order at</b>	0901	Meeting commenced
<b>Acceptance of Last Minutes</b>	Aaron/Zura	
<b>Public Comment</b>	None	None
<b>DPH/OEMS Report</b>	Will send	None
<b>Presentations</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Chairs Report</b>	Region 2 – 2/5 Hunter’s – Pizza & Politics @ 1800	
<b>Discussion</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Standing Trauma Committee</b> – Like the Medical Advisory Committee, Make Trauma Committee as standing committee of CEMSAB.</li> <li>2. <b>Regional Coordinators</b> – Making them permanent employees</li> <li>3. <b>Mileage</b> – currently, Medicaid does not pay load miles for intracity mileage. Have Medicaid include loaded mileage in the rates for intracity transports</li> <li>4. <b>Wording of “Maximum Allowable”</b> – remove that language to reflect that the rates set by OEMS are “the Rates”: so as to remove any ambiguity when negotiating with insurers.</li> </ol>	<p>General discussion on the initiative. Lots of discussion on the need to make the “Essential Service initiative to include Funding source”</p> <p>Challenges with educating legislative leaders re: how EMS works and how EMS</p> <p>Goodman – working on website page that can explain EMS in CT.</p> <p>Zura - Medicaid study of EMS funding CT? Status? We will keep our eyes out and ask questions.</p>

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	<p>5. <b>Establish EMS as an “Essential Service” in CT / funding</b> – Zura: we obviously need to get the essential service but we also need to ensure there is a “funding proposal”. Katz – challenges related to the fact that EMS silos, and lack of legislator knowledge – can/should we be using this effort to fix that – Loiz = Yes. Katz - Funding tied to things like EMS Plans, etc. Allard – explains some challenges re: the financial piece but also some opportunities we can pursue for funding and educating the public.</p>	<p>OLR: <a href="https://www.cga.ct.gov/2023/rpt/pdf/2023-R-0306.pdf">https://www.cga.ct.gov/2023/rpt/pdf/2023-R-0306.pdf</a></p> <p>Loiz - VoterVoice – still an active effort – Need to find funding.</p>
<p><b>Federal Level</b></p>	<p><a href="#">American Ambulance Association: Visit the Action Center to submit testimony easily</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EMS Workforce: <a href="#">One-Pager on EMS Workforce Shortage</a></li> <li>2. Medicare Ambulance relief: S.1673 &amp; HR.1666</li> <li>3. Balance Billing: <a href="#">One-Pager on Balance Billing</a></li> <li>4. Veterans affairs: <a href="#">One-Pager on VA Final Rule Delay</a></li> </ol> <p><a href="#">NAEMT Advocacy – Use the OLS to submit testimony easily</a></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EMS Workforce Bill: EMS Counts Act: S.1115 and HR.2574</li> <li>2. SIREN bill S.265 &amp; HR.4646</li> <li>3. TIP &amp; TAD bill = Passed</li> <li>4. Extend Ground Ambulance add-ons: S.1673 &amp; HR.1666</li> <li>5. Congressional EMS Caucus – Right now, this is the most important because we (CT) don’t have any representation on this caucus in DC</li> </ol> <p><a href="#">NCSL EMS Legislative Database</a></p>	<p>Testimony sent from NAEMT and AAA on the following issues</p> <p>-Kate asks about surprise billing – what’s happening at the national level? Discussion ensued with regard to AAA / NAEMT initiatives</p> <p>Also discussed EMS on the Hill</p>
<p><b>FYI’s</b></p>	<p>EMS on the Hill is 4/17-18/2024: <a href="https://naemt.org/events/register">https://naemt.org/events/register</a></p>	<p>N/A</p>

**Adjourned:** 1000 Zura / Paretzky

**Respectfully Submitted:** Loiz, Michael

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:**, 2/15, 3/14, 4/18, 5/16, 6/13, 7/18, 8/15, 9/19, 10/17, 11/14, 12/19

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