



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION
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Unity Is Strength

House Committee on Local Government

Chairman Emil Bergquist

From: Sean Gatewood, Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association

Testimony in Support of SB384

The Kansas EMS Association (KEMSA) represents over 2,300 EMS professionals and 117 EMS agencies in Kansas; we represent agencies that are volunteer, privately owned and operated, hospital based, combined Fire and EMS or municipally run departments. As such, KEMSA understands the various types of services we represent as well as the many challenges our industry faces; including reimbursement for our services as well as the staffing shortfalls in our great state.

KEMSA's position continues to support two licensed providers in each ambulance as this is the standard of care nationwide, however; we also understand the dire need for providers in our most rural counties where ambulance staffing depends on volunteers. Therefore we endorse the compromise as written between the Kansas Board of EMS and the Kansas League of Municipalities. We believe this compromise will allow for all parties to safely and effectively determine if there is an avenue in which the staffing shortfalls can be overcome while also keeping our patients and our providers safe.

Thank you for your time on this most important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

David Adams, President, Kansas EMS Association

