

Wisconsin EMS Association
Your voice for EMS



To: Members of the Wisconsin Legislature

From: Marc Cohen, Executive Director

Date: Thursday, March 9, 2017

**Re: Support of Community EMS \ Mobile Integrated Care Legislation (LRB 0116/1)
Urge Members of Wisconsin Legislature Co-Sponsor**

On behalf of the Wisconsin EMS Association (WEMSA) we urge members of the Wisconsin Legislature to **please consider co-sponsoring LRB-0116/1** relating to “*community paramedics, community emergency medical technicians, community emergency medical services providers, and services provided by emergency medical technicians.*”

The national term for this type of service is “mobile integrated care.”

The concept of community EMS \ mobile integrated care, was first introduced nearly two decades ago and has gained much acceptance nationally. Mobile integrated care focuses on the fact that nationally our medical centers and hospitals, urban and rural, spend a disproportionate share of resources providing non-urgent care to patients who often could have been better served in a primary or mobile integrated care setting.

LRB-0116/1 would allow the use of existing Wisconsin EMS service providers in an expanded role to be used to increase access to primary \ preventative care and provide wellness interventions within the medical home model with the goal to decrease emergency department utilization, promote healthcare savings and most importantly contribute toward the objective of improving patient care outcomes.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact either myself or our lobbyist Forbes McIntosh.

Again, on behalf of Wisconsin’s EMS profession, we ask that you consider supporting and co-sponsoring LRB-0116/1.

Thank you again for your time and commitment to this matter.

The Wisconsin EMS Association, as the “Voice of EMS in Wisconsin,” represents over 7,000 members and 450 services who provide tens of thousands of life saving calls throughout the state. According to Department of Health Services – Wisconsin EMS System Statistics, annual calls for all services statewide totaled more than 640,000 in 2015.