



July 5, 2017

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Coastal Valleys
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El Dorado
Imperial
Inland Counties
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Los Angeles
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Monterey
Mountain-Valley
Napa
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
Tuolumne
Ventura
Yolo

The Honorable Senator Hertzberg
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4038
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 185/Hertzberg (As Amended 5/26/17) – Concerns

Dear Senator Hertzberg:

The Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association (EMSAAC) is writing to express concerns with your SB 185 (as amended May 26, 2017), which would prevent the automatic suspension of driver's licenses for people who are unable to pay fines or fees for minor traffic violations thereby reducing the amount of traffic statutory fines and associated fees, assessments, other financial penalties collected.

A significant source of operating revenue for local emergency medical services agencies (LEMSAs) is generated through the fees assessed on traffic infractions through the Maddy Emergency Medical Services Fund (H&SC 1797.98). As written, SB 185 will reduce funding to local EMS agencies due to the reduction in fees collected through the Maddy EMS Fund. EMSAAC understands the need to reform the imposition of fines and fees. EMSAAC is concerned that the eventual loss in revenue caused by SB 185 will negatively affect the ability of local EMS agencies to fulfill their responsibilities to ensure Californians have access to efficient and effective prehospital emergency medical care delivered through planned emergency medical services systems.

EMSAAC respectfully requests that you carefully consider potential implications of SB 185 on local EMS funding.

EMSAAC represents the 33 local emergency medical services (EMS) agency administrators representing all of California's 58 counties. EMSAAC's legislative priorities include ensuring appropriate medical oversight of the EMS system.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact our EMSAAC Legislative Committee Chairperson, Dan Burch, EMS Administrator, San Joaquin County, at (209) 468-7495, or by email dburch@sjgov.org.

Sincerely,

Michael Petrie
EMSAAC President