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March 11, 2024

Senator Agelique Ashby
1021 O Street, Suite 7320
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1180 (Ashby) Health care coverage: emergency medical services – LETTER OF CONCERN

Dear Senator Ashby,

The Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC), representing the interests of all 34 California Local EMS Agencies (LEMSAs) covering all 58 California counties, write to express our concerns about your bill, SB 1180. The bill would require healthcare plans and health insurance policies to provide reimbursement for community paramedicine, triage to alternative destination, and mobile integrated health program services.

Our concerns about this bill specifically relate to the bill's definition of 'mobile integrated health program' to mean "a fire department-based team of licensed health care practitioners, operating within their scope of practice, who provide mobile health services to support the emergency medical services system." As currently written/proposed, this bill would exclude reimbursement for these services provided by non-fire department-based entities (i.e., fire districts, other public EMS providers, hospital based EMS providers, and private EMS providers). To ensure the feasibility of these important programs necessary to support the EMS system, we believe that appropriate reimbursement should be available to all applicable/approved EMS system providers.

We are happy to discuss our concerns about SB 1180 in more detail. Please reach out to our lobbyist Darby Kernan at dkernan@mosaicsof.com.

Thank you,

Nick Clay
EMSAAC President