

Murdo, Patricia

From: Don Whalen <Don@missoulaparamedics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 8:49 AM
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: FW: Senate Bill 104

Dear Pat,

I see that you are the staff analyst for the Economic Affairs Interim Committee, I sent the email below to the committee in reference to SJR 32. This was sent to the committee on behalf of Missoula and Great Falls Emergency Service. We wanted to make sure you had a copy, Thank you for your time.

Thanks

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Missoula Emergency Services Inc.

From: Don Whalen
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 3:03 PM
To: 'Rep.Ryan.Lynch@mt.gov'; 'marknolandhd10@gmail.com'; 'Rep.Vince.Ricci@mt.gov'; 'Rep.Sharon.Peregoy@mt.gov'; 'ebuttrey@mtsenate.com'; 'TFacey@mt.gov'; 'vancesd34@gmail.com'; 'Sen.Lea.Whitford@mt.gov'
Cc: 'Justin Grohs'
Subject: Senate Bill 104

Dear Economic affairs Interim Committee,

Missoula and Great Falls Emergency Service worked actively with Senator Sands on Senate Bill 104 to open the door for our ambulance services to offer a new health care model for patients that fall through the cracks. We see your interim committee is looking at this bill, as well as the community veteran bill. Our providers are currently licensed through the Board of Medical Examiners (BOME); the ambulance service is licensed through the Department of Public Health and Human Services. In our ambulance operations we provide care under protocols from our Medical Director, we see this new model providing care under the direction of a physician the same way our ambulance operation does. We are not looking to compete with home health or any other health care providers. We are looking to fill the gap with the patients we currently respond to who don't need and ambulance, but call 911 because they don't know who to call. I don't think

we need a new law, the Board of Medical Examiners simply needs to have the ability to develop an endorsement to allow this to happen. This would do two things for us. Blue Cross Blue Shield has informed us that if we had an endorsement they could credential our providers knowing they have met an education and clinical standard. The Insurance Company that covers our professional liability insurance also stated the same to us; they would like to see an endorsement from the state. We think moving the authorization for the BOME from where it is currently, to a place where they can consult with other medical professionals and develop endorsements that will benefit Montana's population in other ways than just for emergencies. There is a lot more to this and we would be happy to discuss with you, but unfortunately we are not able to attend the committee next week. We just want you to know that we do support this idea that would also save the healthcare system a lot of money.

Thank you

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Thanks

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