

Protect Emergency Medical Services Support H. 863

Prevent Cost Shifts to Cities and Towns

City and town budget are already stretched too thin. Now insurers want to slash reimbursements for emergency 911 calls.

When insurance companies slash reimbursement rates for emergency 911 services cities and towns are left having to make up for these cuts or reduce services in the community. The difference comes out of the pockets of local taxpayers and goes into the pockets of the insurance companies.

H. 863 prevents big insurers from unilaterally slashing reimbursements for emergency medical services and gives local communities authority to control rates for services.

Massachusetts has a modern EMS system. We invest in technology, state-of-the-art equipment and qualified 911 personnel. There are more than 720,000 emergency/911 ambulance transports every year in Massachusetts. The gold standard for response time is 8 minutes or less in 90% of incidents. When insurers slash reimbursements fewer ambulances are on the road, response times increase, and our citizens suffer.

www.protectems.org

