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Chair Rep. Tina Liebling
Health Finance & Policy Committee

I am writing today to show my support for HF2736 *Requirements for licensure and license renewal of ambulance services modified, permits from municipalities required to provide service in primary service area, rulemaking to modify primary service areas required, and establishment of performance standards required.*

I am advocating for local control, greater oversight and accountability, transparency, and actionable steps to ensure our resident and community needs are being put first. This legislation will empower us as local officials to work collaboratively with our ambulance provider to ensure the needs of our residents are being met.

The decision of a local unit of government to provide ambulance services is something that should rest with our city council and administration and follow these recommendations:

1. Modify existing PSAs to correspond with local governing units (“LGU”) lines. The LGU would be given decision-making authority regarding ambulance service providers during the existing renewal timeline. Any change in ambulance service provider (including “name change” and buy-outs) would trigger an immediate license renewal process.
2. Require performance standards be set during the license renewal process.
3. Quality assurance metrics reviewed over that quarter (what clinical and operational items were reviewed by quality assurance staff)
4. Consistent definitions of “response time” and “quality of care”.
5. Require a quarterly report to be delivered to the local units of government with oversight authority of the EMS in that PSA.

As our city continues to grow, we will continue to need legislative support to provide the high level of emergency services our residents expect. Local officials must have a say on how ambulance service is provided within our communities.

Sincerely,

Dustin Kalis, Fire Chief
Lake Elmo Fire Department