



*City of Eden Prairie Fire Department*  
14800 Scenic Heights Road  
Eden Prairie, MN. 55344

March 14, 2023

Honorable Representatives of the House of Representatives Health Policy and Finance Committee,

Please find this letter to share that the City of Eden Prairie is in support of HF2736.

We are fortunate to have great healthcare in our state and great public safety partnerships in the City of Eden Prairie. As you may be aware, current law stipulates that ambulance providers perform Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) in exclusive operating areas or Primary Service Areas (“PSAs”). In the 1980s, when PSA’s were established, ambulance providers were granted these permanent service territories without any direct accountability to the governmental units within those areas serviced and very lax state supervision. This process continues today. The PSA operating license areas are essentially “owned” by the ambulance provider and they control the transfer and sale of these service area licenses to other entities. An ambulance provider license is a multi-faceted license with various requirements. The PSA is specified in the license.

The Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB), is the state’s EMS regulatory agency that oversees and issues ambulance licenses. As you are likely aware there was a recent Office of Legislative Auditor (OLA) report issued that provided recommendations for improvements to the emergency medical services delivery system in our state. The City of Eden Prairie believes in partnerships and effective service delivery. We believe local control of emergency medical services is a community issue with a focus on community health/patient care and certainly and not a police or fire vs. EMS issue.

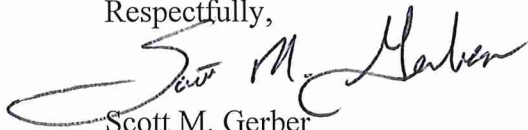
**Considerations and Recommendations**

- Modify existing PSAs to align 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 initiate an immediate license renewal process.
- Require performance standards be set during the license renewal process. The report must include, but is not limited to the following:
  - Number and type of calls by LGU;
  - Amount of fees for services to be posted publicly by the ambulance service for the fees charged in the local unit of government territory;
  - Response time and mode (emergent versus non-emergent) from 911 until ambulance arrival with required staff;
  - Transport percentage by local unit of government;
  - Transport destinations by local unit of government;
  - Number of ambulances staffed by time of day and day of week by local unit of government (how many ambulances were stations in that local unit of government throughout the quarter); and
  - Mutual aid given and received.

- Quality assurance metrics reviewed over that quarter (what clinical and operational items were reviewed by quality assurance staff)
- Consistent definitions of “response time” and “quality of care”.
- Require a quarterly report to be delivered to the local units of government with oversight authority of the EMS in that PSA.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of HF2736.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott M. Gerber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "G".

Scott M. Gerber  
Fire Chief