

Hearing Date: March 2, 2021

Committee: Judiciary

Bill: HB 1110- Criminal Law- Felony Second-Degree Assault – Emergency Medical Care Workers

Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

This letter is **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT of HB 1110** regarding the potential for felony charges for a person who intentionally causes physical harm against an individual providing emergency medical care in a hospital or freestanding medical facility.

I wholeheartedly endorse the inclusion of emergency medical workers as professionals who are protected under this law. However, I am concerned as to why it only applies to those providing emergency medical care. Personally, I am lucky to not have been physically attacked in the workplace. However, I have cared for healthcare workers after assaults where injuries have occurred. Unfortunately, these attacks can and do occur in all medical settings: throughout the hospital, in outpatient practices, ambulatory surgical settings, urgent care, behavioral health clinics, even ancillary services like laboratory drawing stations and imaging facilities. Therefore, I am requesting that the language instead provide protection to any worker who is providing medical or mental health related services anywhere in a hospital or other freestanding medical facility instead of those just providing *emergency* care.

Thank you again for crafting this much needed protection and I appreciate your consideration of a favorable amendment to HB 1110 to expand the protected locations and services.

Sincerely,



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