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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0159- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Emergency Medical Services - Vehicles and Ambulances - Required Supplies, Reviews, and Complaints

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0159, Emergency Medical Services - Vehicles and Ambulances - Required Supplies, Reviews, and Complaints

The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems has *The Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program*¹

The Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP) aims to formally recognize and prominently display to the public those emergency response vehicles that meet a standard of excellence defined by Maryland's inspection guidelines.

Compliance with the VAIP satisfies the requirements for Medical Director's review of ambulance equipment under COMAR, [Title 30.03.03.03C\(1\)](#)

This bill requires the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems to coordinate the minimum equipment, supplies, and medications to be available on emergency medical services vehicles; requiring each county and municipality that operates or contracts emergency medical services to conduct quarterly reviews of ambulance performance data; and requiring each county to establish and maintain a formal complaint filing system regarding ambulance quality, conduct, or compliance.

Passing this bill will assure the public that the ambulances operating in Maryland have the minimum equipment, supplies, and medications on their vehicles.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0159.

¹ <https://www.miemss.org/home/vaip>