



**A statewide coalition for community paramedicine
and innovative emergency medical services**

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Memorandum in Support

A07503 Gottfried / S05481 Hannon
Community Paramedicine for EMS

An Act to amend the public health law, in relation to community paramedicine services provided by emergency medical providers.

The New York Mobile Integrated Healthcare Association (NYMIHA) strongly supports A07503 and its companion S05481 introduced this week entitled "An act to amend the public health law, in relation to community paramedicine services provided by emergency medical providers."

NYMIHA is a statewide coalition seeking to promote innovative emergency medical services. We support efforts to make emergency medical services (EMS) more patient-centered, more adaptive to changes in the healthcare system, and more integrated into the continuum of healthcare delivery and the public health infrastructure. Over the past 3 years, NYMIHA has helped to assemble a broad-based coalition including emergency physicians, primary care, labor unions, health information exchanges, telemedicine providers, hospital groups, as well as EMS agencies, Regional EMS Councils, EMS trade associations, and more, around the issue of community paramedicine and mobile integrated healthcare.

Community Paramedicine is an emerging focus of EMS around the nation whereby emergency medical technicians (including advanced EMT's) acting within their scope of practice, participate in the evaluation, prevention, and improvement of health conditions of patients in their community outside of emergency situations and outside of traditional ambulance transports.

We believe this act will improve the care provided to the people of New York by empowering New York's EMS providers to play a larger, more integrated role with our healthcare system. It will allow for EMT's and paramedics to collaborate with hospitals or health systems for proactive out-of-hospital programs. It is entirely consistent with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Triple Aims: better quality, better patient experience, at lower per-capita cost.

We commend the sponsors of this legislation for embracing the community paramedicine concept which will improve the health of New Yorkers and better utilize existing healthcare resources.

We encourage those who want more information about community paramedicine to visit the NYMIHA website at www.nymiha.org.