



Town of
MANCHESTER

FIRE - RESCUE – EMS

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Joshua Beaulieu, MBA, LP, CEMSO
Battalion Chief, Support Services

February 20, 2020

Testimony in Support of Governor's Bill No 5005.

Distinguished Members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Joshua Beaulieu. I am a licensed paramedic and a Battalion Chief for Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS where I serve as the department's EMS Officer. In addition, I am the Chair of the Mobile Integrated Healthcare committee of the CT EMS Advisory Board.

My testimony is in Support of Governor's Bill No 5005, AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2021

From September 2017 to March 2019 I served as a member of the Mobile Integrated Health Working Group, convened pursuant to Section 45 of Public Act 17-146, *An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Various Revisions To The Public Health Statutes*. In March 2019 this working group submitted a report to the General Assembly that made recommendations for the implementation of Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) programs in Connecticut. The report identified the benefits of such programs to Connecticut citizens and recognized specific hurdles to program implementation, some of which were subsequently addressed by language passed in the 2019 Senate Bill No. 920 "AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES".

Connecticut is very close to being able to support MIH programs. Much work has been done to ensure that any MIH program opportunity in Connecticut is accomplished as a collaboration among all healthcare stakeholders in the catchment area of any potential MIH program. Changes to the work environment of paramedics, necessary to enable MIH programs, have been embraced by the Department of Public health and specifically by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. The next step is ensuring that there is adequate support within the OEMS to safely and effectively manage the approval and oversight of MIH programs.



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Among other operational necessities, Governor's Bill No 5005 adjusts funding to the Department of Public Health to allow for support of Mobile Integrated Healthcare program implementation and oversight. Without this support, MIH programs cannot move forward in Connecticut. Nationally, MIH programs have been shown to improve patient outcomes, positively impact the cost of healthcare and address gaps in care that currently exist. The ability for communities to take advantage of these programs is a crucial step in improving healthcare delivery in our State. Please support this bill, specifically the requests made by the Department of Public Health in support of MIH programs.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua Beaulieu".

Joshua Beaulieu, MBA, LP, CEMSO

Battalion Chief, Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS

Chair, CT EMS Advisory Board Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee