

**THE SIMSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY**  
**871 HOPMEADOW STREET SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070**

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TO: Transportation Committee of the Connecticut Legislature

RE: Senate Bill 982 – Section 18 – Permitting Blue Lights by Volunteer Ambulance Personnel

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. I am writing in opposition to section 18 of this bill which will allow the permitting of blue lights to be used by volunteer ambulance members.

As Chief of the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company, which provides fire protection services to the Town of Simsbury via an all-volunteer firefighting force, I feel this will create unnecessary confusion for our motorists as well as for our members if they see a flashing blue light being used in town since we have a separate ambulance service in town and calls are handled completely separately. If passed a volunteer of either agency may think they are missing a call and react accordingly. Also the resource requirements for fire calls are much greater therefore should volunteer firefighters assume incorrectly that a blue light being displayed is an ambulance call, this may result in fewer and critical resources from responding to the fire station.

Please delete Section 18 from the proposed bill and continue to allow the green light to be used by volunteer ambulance personnel.

Respectfully Submitted,

*JAMES A. BALDIS*

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