

While the efforts of state leaders and the Louisiana Department of Health to respond to the concerns of the EMS practitioner community and the out of hospital needs of Louisiana's citizens are appreciated, the design of the current Bureau of EMS is insufficient to address the out-of-hospital needs of our citizens and Emergency Medical Service Practitioners.

**A Louisiana Board of Emergency Medical Services is the solution.**

Our citizens, our Paramedics, our Emergency Medical Technicians, and our Emergency Medical Responders deserve no less.

**TODAY! EMS 2018**

Bureaucracy impedes processes and advances in pre- and out-of-hospital emergency medical practice, licensure, and the development of pre-hospital protocols.

The State Bureau of EMS within the Office of Public Health within the Louisiana Department of Health, a decades-old model, continues to be dysfunctional due to lack of autonomy.

At least in part, the existing model of the State Bureau of EMS has contributed to the chronic shortage of EMS Practitioners in the state of Louisiana.

Timely and appropriate responses to factors impacting delivery of EMS care (drug shortages, natural disasters, environmental disasters) cannot be developed, adopted, and communicated.

The EMS Certification Commission, the policing body of the EMS Practitioner, has been prohibited from fulfilling its statutory purposes due to the current structure and placement within Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health.

For decades the Bureau of EMS, has been dependent upon and required annual state general fund appropriation.

## **OPPORTUNITY**

To create generational stability in emergency medical licensure, education, and practice.

Through the establishment of the Louisiana Board of Emergency Medical Services, empower qualified emergency medical practitioners who have a vested interest in exceptional delivery of pre- and out-of-hospital licensure, and medical protocols with responsibility for the emergency medical care of Louisiana's citizens.

To insulate the delivery of pre and out-of-hospital care from contemporary political affairs, politics, party affiliation, and political appointments.

To retain relevant and qualified staff, systems, and processes in the establishment of an appropriate body to regulate and lead pre- and out-of-hospital care.

To allow for deliberate, thoughtful, and coordinated transition to the Louisiana Board of Emergency Medical Services.

End a reliance and dependence on state general funds.

## **EMS 2020**

A Louisiana Board of Emergency Medical Services exists to ensure that quality pre- and out-of-hospital care is available throughout Louisiana.

There is no reliance on state general funds.

Practitioners, not state agencies or institutions, nimbly and efficiently address advances in practice, issues, and national statutory requirements through research-based education criteria and best practices delivery.

Pre- and out-of-hospital care is based on the optimal utilization of EMS Practitioner capacity, is consistent with the patient's needs, and exceeds national standards.

The delivery of optimal pre and out-of-hospital care is supported through the adoption of standards; definition of scope of practice; and provision of health, safety, and public education.

Emergency Medical Service Practitioners ensure that necessary and appropriate processes and systems are in place.

The industrial and mobile integrated health practitioner (community paramedicine) are integrated into the state emergency medical service system.

Qualified staff are engaged, and appropriate systems and processes are in place to regulate and lead pre- and out-of-hospital practitioners.