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Company National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)

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Please Indicate Organization Represented (If any) National Association of State EMS Officials

1. a) NFPA Document Title: Standard for Automotive Ambulances NFPA No. & Edition NFPA 1917, 2013 edition

b) Section/Paragraph: 4.12.3

2. Proposal Recommends: (Check one)

- new text
- revised text
- deleted text

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3. Proposal

~~4.12.3 The maximum top speed of the ambulance shall not exceed either 77 mph (124 km/hr) or the manufacturer's maximum service speed rating for the tires installed on the ambulance, whichever is lower.~~

4. Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Comment

NASEMSO cannot support or enforce section 4.12.3, and the need for this deletion remains even if the TIA related to section 4.17 is granted.

There are states where the legal speed limit is above 77 MPH, including 80 and 85 MPH. Further, in some states an ambulance operating with lights and sirens can legally exceed the posted speed limit by 10 MPH. Therefore, while well intentioned for roadways with a posted speed limit of 65 MPH or less, a governor set to 77 MPH will actually create a safety hazard as a result of ambulances traveling at much slower speeds than the surrounding traffic. Speed should be governed by the states and owners and operators of the ambulances. Since not every chassis manufacturer makes speed governors available, NASEMSO is also deeply concerned about risk aversion expressed by ambulance manufacturers about aftermarket installation and device failure.

Availability of this technology is extremely limited among chassis and aftermarket device manufacturers, and only one brand has been identified that can be set at 77 mph. NASEMSO recognizes the importance of safe ambulance operations, and is cognizant of other electronic means of speed monitoring, the annex content on monitoring systems, as well as local EMS agency policies related to the matter.

5. **X This Proposal is original material.** (Note: Original material is considered to be the submitter's own idea based on or as a result of his/her own experience, thought, or research and, to the best of his/her knowledge, is not copied from another source.)

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