



Creation of CMS Ad Hoc EMS Committee

Whereas, the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) recognizes that systems of healthcare financing and reimbursement are a critical foundation to the successful operation of statewide EMS systems through adequate support of the costs of local EMS provider agencies; and

Whereas, NASEMSO recognizes that adequate financing of local, regional and statewide EMS provider agencies assures the provision of the safety net of day-to-day and disaster emergency medical care; and

Whereas, innovative programs such as community paramedicine and others, which enable EMS personnel to treat patients under physician supervision without transport to hospitals, may resolve otherwise unmet community health care needs and create savings to the healthcare system as a whole; and


Whereas, The Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on the Future of Emergency Care was convened to examine the emergency care system in the United States, and published the 2006 series of reports entitled “*Future of Emergency Care*” which create a vision for the future of the system and make recommendations for achieving that vision; and

Whereas, an IOM report in that series, entitled “*Emergency Medical Services at the Crossroad*”, recommended that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) convene an ad hoc work group with expertise in emergency care, trauma and EMS systems to evaluate the reimbursement of EMS and make recommendations regarding inclusion of readiness cost and permitting payment without transport; and

Whereas, this IOM report recommendation has yet to be accomplished, and the national EMS system remains unable to fulfill its potential as a healthcare provider in these patient service and cost-saving areas.

Now therefore be it resolved that the National Association of State EMS Officials calls upon the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and its CMS, to convene the ad hoc committee recommended in the IOM report to evaluate the reimbursement of EMS and make recommendations regarding inclusion of readiness cost and permitting payment without transport and that it enable, through support of travel expenses, national EMS association representation to participate in this committee.

Signed this 15th day of October, 2010.


Steve Blessing
2008-10 President


Jim DeTienne
2009-10 Secretary

Intended recipients:

Secretary, United States Department of Health and Human Services

Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Members, Advocates for EMS