



# NASEMSO Government Information Committee

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## MEETING RECORD

**November 15, 2016**  
3:00 PM EST

**Attending** – Paul Patrick, Chair (ID), Andy Gienapp (WY), Keith Wages (GA), Jim DeTienne (WY), Joe Schmider (TX), Ritu Sahni (NAEMSP), Alisa Williams (LA), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

**Call to Order / Call Roll / Approve Agenda** – Paul Patrick called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM EST. The agenda was approved as presented.

**Review and Approve Meeting Minutes** – The July 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting Record was approved as submitted.

**HR 4365 & S 2932, Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2016** – Dr. Ritu Sahni announced that HR 4365 passed unanimously in the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday. Hopefully the House bill will be taken up by the Senate and passed. This would be the best possible scenario and the Senate bill author is supportive of this approach. Ritu thanked NASEMSO for the support. Dia and others were able to quickly respond to some concerns that arose at that last minute. Ritu thanked Dr. Taillac, Dr. Sibold, Paul Patrick and Mary Hedges for their efforts as well. *(For more information, see [NASEMSO GIC website](#))*

**Hot Cars Act of 2016** (H.R. 6041, introduced 9/15/16) – See <https://www.congress.gov/search?q={%22congress%22:%22114%22,%22source%22:%22legislation%22,%22search%22:%22HR6041%22}&searchResultViewType=expanded> Mary Hedges reported that this bill directs US DOT to issue a final rule requiring all new passenger motor vehicles be equipped with technology to alert that a child or unattended passenger remains in a rear seating position after the vehicle motor is deactivated. The bill will not go anywhere this session as it was only introduced in mid-September, but it is worth watching to see if it is introduced during the next Congressional session. Ritu indicated NAEMSP was approached also to support the bill. Paul recommended that the Committee follow this if/when it is introduced in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-18).

**Air Medical Reimbursement/Balance Billing Update** – Jim DeTienne reported that he does not have an update, other than the NASEMSO Air Medical Committee may be tracking this issue as part of its strategies. Paul added that balance billing by air medical companies is a concern with federal legislators from Utah. They would like to see air ambulances exempt from the Federal

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Airline Deregulation Act (ADA). Jim said there are a couple of bills under consideration in the Montana Legislature, one which relates to subscription services and the other requiring air ambulance bill disputes to go to arbitration. Neither bill would be able to overcome the federal pre-emption of the ADA, but state legislators felt they needed to do something to address the problem. Joe Schmider reported that in Texas, one family was left with a \$96,000 air ambulance bill. The issue has not been addressed by NAEMSP, according to Dr. Sahni.

**State Legislation Roundtable (REPLICA and more)** – Paul reported that seven states have been successful in getting the REPLICA legislation passed. Members further discussed what states are working on efforts to provide information to their state legislatures and EMS communities of interest. Sue Prentiss has been hired by NASEMSO to assist states with REPLICA legislation.

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM EST.

**Next Meeting** – January 17, 2017

*The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.*