

NASEMSO Government Information Committee (GIC) Strategy and Advocacy Workgroup

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After meeting electronically and in-person we are proposing the following to the NASEMO Board concerning Advocacy and Government Information.

We applaud NASEMSO staff that has done an outstanding job in educating and advising our membership about Federal and State Legislative issues that EMS offices should understand and care about. We also recognize that it is difficult to manage all these types of tasks.

We propose the following:

1. The Past President of NASEMSO would chair the new Government Information Committee (GIC), which includes advocacy for EMS issues
2. The chair of the committee would serve for a two-year term
3. Membership of the GIC should expand to include others, determined by the Board, and including all partners who previously worked together on advocacy issues
4. The strategy of GIC:
"We achieve our mission by participation of all the states and territories while being a strong national voice for EMS"
5. The Goal of the GIC:
"Serve as a permanent advocacy and governmental affairs information group for EMS."
6. NASEMSO funding that previously went to advocacy should be shifted to staff support for the GIC
7. We encourage other partners to fund projects as they are identified and as the need arises but no set dues are anticipated
- 8.

With the recommendations above we clearly support the vote of the Board in December to no longer fund activities of the existing Advocates for EMS. We feel we will acquire broader support and in return better advocacy for NASEMSO membership through partnerships with like-minded organizations under the GIC. We believe it will be helpful to have a committee that is knowledgeable on local, state, and national governmental issues that are potentially relevant to the EMS system.

The GIC will develop recommendations that require action from the various boards NASEMSO and other members of the committee represent. This leads to a tiered level of action vs. response from the GIC to include:

1. Information items only
2. Policy issues requiring action within the member's organizations
3. Policy action requiring action by the various boards that are represented on the committee
- 4.

We realize that there is a need to monitor, provide information to our members, and seek member support on issues facing EMS. We feel the "power" of our membership is in the un-tapped force of our members collective voice that will cost less but have a greater impact on EMS than was previously provided. It will help NASEMSO achieve a "grass roots" attitude of advocacy and have a greater potential for success. This recommendation will require the need for greater emphasis on education and training of our members. We feel the result will be a stronger group of organizations working together for awareness of issues facing EMS now and in the future.