

April 23, 2019

The Honorable Jim Runestad
Michigan Senate
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Senator Runestad:

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a vital component to the healthcare and public safety systems in Michigan. Out-of-hospital medical services are provided by over 300 licensed EMS agencies throughout the state. These independent agencies and their personnel are licensed, certified and regulated by the State of Michigan.

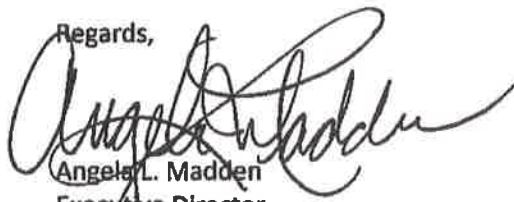
Michigan Association of Ambulance Services (MAAS) members are at the medical forefront of responses to all types of emergency situations, whether they be in someone's home, at work, in an automobile accident or a multitude of other emergency situations. MAAS agencies provide emergency medical services to nearly 750,000 patients a year and assist thousands more while on an emergency scene.

MAAS members serve their communities 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and 365 days per year. Ambulance agencies and operations remain critically underrepresented on commissions and boards established to discuss important health and safety behaviors on which they would have valuable input.

MAAS requests that our organization be represented within the membership of the Suicide Prevention Commission created by SB 228. Specifically, MAAS requests that the number of appointees by the director of the Department of Health and Human Services be increased to ten members to include *"one member who is selected from a list of nominees provided by the Michigan Association of Ambulance Services"*.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request. I will make myself available should you have any questions.

Regards,



Angela L. Madden
Executive Director