



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION
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Unity Is Strength

To: Committee on Corrections & Juvenile Justice
From: Brandon Beck, President, Kansas EMS Association
RE: HB 2091
Date: January 23, 2017

The Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association (KEMSA) is the professional association representing the paramedics, EMTs and ambulance services serving the citizens of Kansas. KEMSA works on various regulatory and legislative matters as well as conferences and educational programs.

KEMSA would request that EMS be removed from HB 2091. The purpose of emergency medical personnel on the scene of incidents is to provide emergency medical care to those in need. EMS personnel have not been burdened with legal expectations such as these so as to not dilute the primary and critical function of the EMS personnel.

The notification of parents in the context of HB 2091 is not regarding the need to deal with parents about the provision of emergency medical services. The contact of the parents is to close the loop of information flow related to minors using alcohol. While there may be someone in need of emergency medical care at the scene, the implementation of the law is not party to the provision of medical services. The provision could in some cases create a problem if emergency medical services are needed by some but others need to have the legal mediate of HB 2091 completed. Currently EMS personnel will contact parents to secure permission to treat minor patients in non-life threatening medical situations and often to secure permission to not treat and transport minors. These situations are resolved between local EMS and local law enforcement. These obligations are directly related to the services provided to patients.

HB 2091 creates a situation where EMS personnel may be expected to make parental contact regarding minors who have consumed alcohol but are not in need of medical attention thus diverting EMS time and attention from those who need emergency medical services.

KEMSA would respectfully request that EMS be removed from HB 2091.

Sincerely,

Brandon Beck
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