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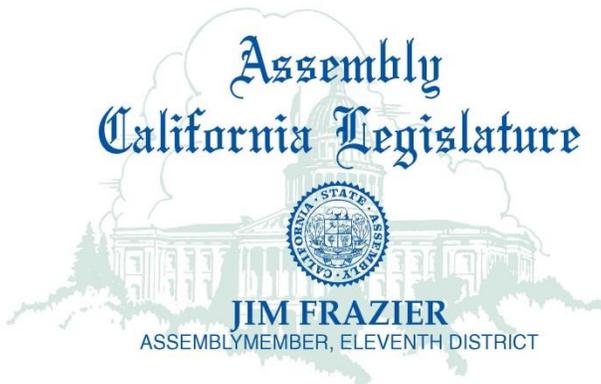
CHAIR: TRANSPORTATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND
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INSURANCE
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CHAIR: SELECT COMMITTEE
ON IMPROVING BAY AREA
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

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Assembly California Legislature



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December 12, 2018

Chair Birgitta Corsello and Board Members
Solano County EMS Cooperative
355 Toulumne St., MS 20-240, Suite 2400
Vallejo, CA 94590

RE: Solano County Emergency Medical Services Cooperative Draft EMS System Review and Blueprint Report

Dear Chair Corsello and Members of the Board:

As the Assemblymember for the 11th Assembly District representing much of Solano County, including the cities of Fairfield, Suisun, Vacaville, and Rio Vista, I am concerned that the draft blueprint and Request For Proposal (RFP) for Solano County's upcoming Exclusive Operating Contract for ambulance service do not provide the best possible care for the residents of the county who will rely on these emergency medical services over the next ten years.

In particular, I want to bring four issues to your attention.

- The draft RFP process did not take into account or solicit enough stakeholder input leaving several groups out of the process entirely, including public safety organizations that currently provide invaluable, lifesaving services to residents and visitors throughout the county. The process to provide input on the draft blueprint and RFP ought to have lasted longer to allow adequate and ample opportunities for stakeholders to offer comments and guidance on an integrally important plan.
- The draft RFP proposes the creation of excessive inefficiencies in dispatch by splitting up emergency medical dispatch services and fire/law enforcement dispatch services. This proposed alteration to the provision of emergency service opens the door to dangerous inefficiencies in resource allocation and coordination during acute emergency situations, endangering lives and diminishing our first responders' effectiveness in the field. The draft RFP does not account for the value of local dispatch, operating at high standards, and the value-added potential of CAD improvements to coordination among locally-based dispatchers.
- The proposed increase in acceptable response times and additional restrictions on emergency responders prioritize profits and the privatization of public dollars at the expense of the health of Solano County's citizens. Lives and livelihoods will be endangered by the devaluing of emergency medical response times and the micromanagement of our firefighters and paramedics.
- Certain requirements within the draft blueprint and RFP exclude existing fire department medical responders from answering the RFP and offering services over the EOA, reducing the competitiveness of the proposals submitted in response to the RFP and arbitrarily excluding valuable lifesaving experience from the RFP process.

I appreciate the effort expended to optimize the operations and effectiveness of Solano County EMS in service to its citizens and taxpayers. However, in exploring cost-effective measures, I encourage you to keep the safety of Solano's residents and visitors as the highest priority and to ensure the best possible standard of emergency care for each citizen in the county. The draft blueprint and RFP do not meet that standard and I ask the county reject this RFP, and continue to vigorously pursue additional consultation with stakeholders, including our local public safety organizations, to find a new path forward for all of our constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Frazier", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

JIM FRAZIER

Assemblymember, 11th District