



February 28th, 2023

Chair John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and members of the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony to House Bill 52, reversing HB 509 from the 134th General Assembly in regard to EMS training and continuing education requirements.

UC Medical Center (UCMC) serves as the only verified adult Level 1 Trauma Center for the Greater Cincinnati region, and our academic medical center proudly provides world-class care to all injured and critically ill patients in our community. Our tripartite mission to provide life-saving clinical care, generate innovative research, and educate the next generations of medical providers all underscore our goal to improve the comprehensive care of trauma patients in Cincinnati. We are innovators, relentless in our pursuit of the best in medicine and able to care for the most complex and critically ill patients. We hold the highest standard of patient care, clinical research and medical education.

As part of this mission, our subspecialty-trained prehospital physicians in the Department of Emergency Medicine's Division of EMS provide education, oversight, and medical direction to almost three dozen EMS agencies in Southwest Ohio. We all want the best-trained and most-skilled Emergency Medical Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Paramedics to care for our loved ones in their most vulnerable times of need. Last year, as an Ohio EMS Continuing Education Site, we directly provided more than 1000 hours of EMS Continuing Education to our region's prehospital providers. Without the changes contained in House Bill 52, this ability will end.

Most of the EMS agencies we support are also EMS Continuing Education sites, and they are able to educate their providers while the instructor and students are on-duty. This system is efficient and responsible. Losing this ability has the potential to increase costs through overtime and fees while decreasing the access to educational opportunities.

On behalf of UC Health, we strongly support House Bill 52 and respectfully request the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee favorably report this legislation.

Sincerely,

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