

Sponsor Testimony: House Bill 303

Representative Nick Santucci, 64th House District

Senate Health Committee

Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 303.

House Bill 303 will establish a process at the Division of EMS to make decisions about the best trainings for the EMS profession. The process established by this legislation will allow a person to request that the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services (EMFTS) add a new topic to be included in training for EMS personnel. The Board already establishes training and certification standards for EMS personnel. It will decide which topics to approve, require approved topics to be included in the training or continuing education program, and adopt rules regarding the required number of hours.

According to the Ohio EMS Chiefs Association, ¾ of emergency calls in Ohio are for EMS response. They are essential actors in the healthcare, public health, and public safety industries, and there is a need to ensure that EMS trainings are up-to-date and effective. This legislation will ensure that those who are actively working in the industry are able to contribute to decisions about what trainings may be necessary for EMS personnel.

Having in-laws and family serving in Fire and EMS, I am proud to have joint sponsored this legislation with Representative Hall, and I believe that it will help ensure that Ohio's emergency services are always prepared and armed with the skills that they need to keep our communities safe.

Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the Health Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 303. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time.