

H.B. 398 – Revise the Law Governing Emergency Medical Technicians September 17th, 2025

Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair Deeter, and Ranking Member Somani, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 398. The purpose of this legislation is to revise the law governing emergency medical technicians. I want to thank my Joint Sponsor, Vice Chair Deeter for bringing this bill idea to me and before this General Assembly. Although we work on many commonsense reforms and ideas, this proposal is as straightforward as it gets.

In the state of Ohio, there are clear guidelines for the practice of EMT basics, intermediates, and paramedics. Those are clearly defined and are known throughout this state. In this legislation we are not attempting to change the scope of practice of what those who have obtained those certifications can or can't do. On line 23-26, we make it abundantly clear that this change we are seeking in law, will be completely in a hospital's emergency department or while moving a patient between the emergency department and another area of the hospital. We are trying to add locations where they can perform three specific scope functions under the direction of a physician or registered nurse.

This will then allow those who are certified to perform the emergency medical services. Those with the certifications as mentioned before may perform the non-emergency medical services but only if the services are performed in accordance with privileges delineated by the hospital.

I want to thank my joint sponsor again for her advocacy and work that has gone into this bill and allowing me to be a part of this common sense reform that allows for better care with certified individuals we already have working in hospitals all across this state.

Thank you for the opportunity again to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 398, my joint sponsor and I will be happy to take any questions at this time.