

March 29, 2021

The Honorable Terry Canales
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768

Re: EMS Support for HB 637

Dear Representative Canales:

I am writing on behalf of the Texas EMS Alliance (TEMSA) to offer our support for HB 637. TEMSA was founded in 2015 as the unified voice of Texas EMS agencies. TEMSA's membership consists of EMS agencies that offer emergency services to both urban and rural communities across the state.

HB 637 is important because it would provide relief to EMS professionals who were infected by Covid-19 as a result of their work. EMS professionals play a unique role in our health care system in that they are often the first to respond and do not know what type of a situation they will encounter.

In addition, we believe that it important to add other members of the EMS team – such as mechanics, dispatchers, and other support members – to HB 637. The reality is that the EMS operations are not possible without all members of the team, and every member of the EMS team faces risks as a result of Covid-19 that is acquired while on the job.

TEMSA looks forward to working with you to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Mincy".

Jeff Mincy
President
Texas EMS Alliance