



National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
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October 20, 2016

Dear Senate NDAA Conferee:

On behalf of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), thank you for including language 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to implement a military health system.

NAEMT believes there is a strong need to standardize military medical training and require that all military medical personnel receive consistent Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) training, which is a proven lifesaver on the battlefield. Currently, our military medical personnel are not receiving consistent training across the DoD in a standardized manner. NAEMT works closely with the Joint Trauma System (JTS) and its Committee on TCCC to ensure that the military medical personnel that we train receive the training as specified by the JTS.

NAEMT, along with our military partners, have developed 4 points that are aligned with recommendations from the Joint Trauma System (JTS) that we ask you to consider while negotiating the final NDAA bill:

1. Commanders at every level in the US Military should mandate TCCC as the standard for battlefield trauma care and combat units should be fully prepared to use TCCC concepts to treat casualties on the battlefield.
2. Combatant commanders should adopt the JTS' Clinical Practice Guidelines as the standard of care for deployed military hospitals and evacuation platforms in their commands.
3. The JTS should be a permanent entity within the Military Health System and responsibility should rest at a senior and joint position within the DoD. The JTS should be DoD's lead organization for trauma care and serve as a direct resource for the battlefield trauma care provider, senior military medical leaders, the military Services, and the Combatant Commands.
4. All battle and nonbattle injury data, to include prehospital care, should be entered into the DoD Trauma Registry (DoDTR), and managed by the JTS.

Formed in 1975 and more than 55,000 members strong, NAEMT is the nation's only organization solely dedicated to representing the professional interests of all EMS practitioners, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders and other professionals working in emergency and mobile healthcare, including government service agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations, and in the military.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations to enhance the current language to ensure effective results and save more lives on and off the battlefield.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Kearns". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Conrad "Chuck" Kearns, MBA, Paramedic, A-EMD
President, NAEMT