



National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
Post Office Box 1400 * Clinton, Mississippi 39060-1400
Phone: 800-34-NAEMT or 601-924-7744 * Fax: 601-924-7325
Website: www.NAEMT.org

October 18, 2011

The Honorable Lois Capps
U.S. House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building,
District of Columbia 20515-0523

Dear Congresswoman Capps,

On behalf of the **National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)**, please accept our thanks and appreciation for sponsoring **H.R. 2853, the Emergency Medic Transition (EMT) Act of 2011**. Our association strongly supports passage of this legislation.

Formed in 1975 and more than 32,000 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 pre-hospital emergency medicine. NAEMT members work in all sectors of EMS, including government service agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations settings, and in the military.

Military medics receive some of the best medical training and experience available when serving our country. Their sacrifices, commitment to duty, and ability to get the job done in austere environments make them exceptionally well-suited for working as Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics in our communities upon their honorable discharge from the armed services or return home as a reservist.

Not all military medical training satisfies civilian requirements for licensing and certification as a civilian EMT or Paramedic. Although military medics may be trained to a higher degree of medical ability, lack of certain training for civilian licensure and certification prevents them from working as a medic when they re-enter civilian life. Most must return to school for one or two years to regain their license and certifications. The Emergency Medic Transition Act has the potential to help veterans return to work upon their completion of military duty and reduce unemployment among veterans. In addition, the bill will help place trained, experienced EMS practitioners into our communities to provide a better quality of life for all Americans.

We believe this legislation is an excellent investment to help our military veterans, our emergency response systems, and our country. NAEMT fully supports its passage and is willing to assist you in gaining more support for the legislation from your fellow members of Congress.

Again, thank you for your work on behalf of the American people and our members. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at info@naemt.org or 1-800-34-NAEMT.

Sincerely,

Connie Meyer
President, NAEMT