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Testimony  
House Bill 1394  
Senate Human Services Committee  
Wednesday, March 5, 2025.  
North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association

Good morning, Madame Chair and members of the committee. My name is Bill Kalanek, I am here today on behalf of the North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association in support of HB 1394.

The bill before you does two things. First, it makes ambulance licenses transferable with the approval of the Department (DHHS). Second, it addresses some issues with regard to substations.

Currently, North Dakota's licensed ambulance services are non-transferable. This creates issues when ambulance services are sold, when ambulance districts are created or when a private ambulance service consolidates with a district into one entity. Allowing ambulance licenses to be transferable, with Department approval, will allow for a more seamless process when these situations arise.

The other issue addressed in this bill has to do with the term "substation". The bill as written closes the door to formation of NEW substations with assigned service areas. It has been proven out by experience that assigning service areas to substations is not always appropriate.

Service areas are assigned to the Licensed Ambulance Service by the Department, how the service chooses to deliver coverage to an area is their decision. Regardless of how the Ambulance chooses to deliver services, they are responsible for the area assigned. What method an Ambulance employs may include what they term a "substation" but that office or substation will not be assigned a specific response area by the Department going forward.

It is important to have a reliable and responsive EMS system in North Dakota. This bill helps to strengthen the reliability of that system.

Thank you.