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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB60

The barrier to getting people to become paramedics is not the education. Paramedic school plus the prerequisite classes to get into school can get someone really close to the degree already.

The barrier is the pay/compensation and the work lifestyle. It's become a "hero" job that nobody is willing to pay for. Why be a paramedic and make \$3/hr above minimum wage when you can do nearly anything else in the medical field and make significantly more?

It's a supply/demand market and right now the supply is down significantly. The only way this bill helps is to lower the entry barriers if education. That won't retain high quality paramedics. It'll just keep anyone unwilling to go back to school for a career that pays better. It ignores the real problem.

If people need a service, they'll need to pay for it, not try to make it cheaper and degrade the quality of that service.