

Through the Chair, members of the committee:

My name is Brian Webb from Anchorage, and I represent myself. I have been in Alaska EMS since 1978, where I continue to volunteer with EMS improvement & advocacy efforts.

I bring first-hand institutional knowledge and a dispassionate view on why EO 125 should be enacted.

When ACEMS came to be, we had no EMS infrastructure. Back then, we even belonged to the Department of Public Safety, and the Governor needed subject matter experts and consumer stakeholders to help build and guide our fledgling system.

So, 47-years later, a lot has changed, and we are now at another EMS juncture With EO 125.

Alaska EMS has matured and has the Office of EMS, which itself has undergone several evolutionary makeovers and now manages EMS in its entirety.

I fully agree with the Order, and where the Department should form an “Alaska EMS Advisory Committee”, but, so we can have an agile and diverse expert panel, but one who directly advises the Commissioner on high-level EMS issues.

As for the future of the ACEMS Special Committees of Medical Direction and Training, Which I participate in, we are self-sufficient and can be reassigned elsewhere in the Department with zero interruption of our work.

Originally though, we were independent committees. And I remember when we became subordinate to ACEMS. It was to give ACEMS work to do as even back then, it was struggling for continued relevancy. ACEMS has done its job, admirably. But ACEMS has also run its course for Alaska EMS.

I know there is a lot of emotional investment in ACEMS. But we need to consider the functionality of a board which now replicates much of the work done by others. Efficiency for Alaska EMS is not a bad thing. This is why we should sunset ACEMS via EO 125.

Again, thank you, and I appreciate your diligence, and for allowing me to speak.