



WISCONSIN ALLIANCE OF CITIES

October 17, 2001

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs

From: Gail Sumi, Intergov'tl Coordinator, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities  
Curt Witynski, Assistant Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities

Re: Opposition to AB 524 & SB 267, related to paramedic staffing

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The Wisconsin Alliance of Cities opposes AB 524 and SB 267 because the bills reduce a municipal medical director's flexibility to provide the community with the best paramedic service possible.

Why do the onerous requirements apply only to paramedic services that were established prior to January 1, 2000? What makes them different? The requirements interfere with current staffing practices that are effective in saving our citizen's lives.

Most troublesome is the requirement that ambulance staff be dispatched from the same site, together, to the scene of an emergency and return, together, to the dispatching site. This potentially reduces the personnel available to perform lifesaving functions for the next call.

Thank you for considering our opposition to these two bills.