

Letter of support / affirmation

January 17, 2024

Reference Proponent Senate Bills 63, 64, and 87

Chairperson, ladies, gentlemen, and members in attendance,

My name is Keith A Sharisky, current President of the South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association. It is in this role that I as well as the SDEMSEA are in support of Senate Bill's 63, 64, and 87.

Senate Bill's 63 and 64 are the result of significant work. This work was a partnership endeavor between South Dakota's Dedicated First Responders, First Receivers, other stake holders and importantly the South Dakota Department of Health.

Sometimes members of the public and members of government have a love / hate relationship, this did not occur between the Stake Holders and SD DOH. I saw both the Stake Holders and SD DOH want to work together in a collaborative endeavor. Everything was placed on the table, everything was evaluated and discussed. Everyone was tasked with goals and solutions. Everyone had a vested interest and a want and need to be successful in these tasks.

As a result, Senate Bill's 63 and 64 are the result. I do not believe that these Bills are perfect. I believe that the enactment of these Bills needs to be thought of as a work in progress. My rationale for this thought, no one can think of everything. Medicine, Patient Care, First Responders and First Receivers are always in a constant state of dynamic change. This will require the Stake Holders and the SD DOH to remain vigilant and bring the changes to keep both the Stake Holders and SD DOH set for success.

Senate Bill 87 has the same language as Senate Bill 64, Section 29, 36-4B-37 lines 4 through 30. This language is a result of the work completed by Stake Holders and SD DOH and as such, I and the SDEMSEA support this Bill as well.

In short, the SDEMSEA supports these noted Bills 63, 64, and 87.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter.

Respectfully,

Keith A Sharisky



President

South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association

Keith A Sharisky

Friday January 19th, 2024

Aberdeen, SD

07:45 – 09:45

605-715-9270

Proponent

Senate Bills 63, 64, and 87