Make the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam optional for Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) (SB 666)

POSITION: NEUTRAL
Our membership organizations have members working in volunteer and paid services in all parts of the state with differing perspectives on the need for this change. Thus, we are taking a neutral stance on this bill.

SUMMARY
Current rules promulgated by DHS require an applicant for a license as an emergency medical services provider at any level, including an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), to be registered with the NREMT or, in certain circumstances, to complete the NREMT examination.

SB 666 would make that requirement optional, such that the EMR service or ambulance service could employ an EMR who has not passed the national test, but has other certifications and accomplishments.

- We do request that the alternatives to passing the NREMT be specified, so that properly trained individuals are providing care for the patients of Wisconsin. For example, in the absence of passing the NREMT, an EMR must have successfully passed an approved EMR class in a Wisconsin Technical College or Certified Training Center.

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