SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE STAMFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Stamford Emergency Medical Services ("SEMS") is celebrating its 25th anniversary of providing pre-hospital emergency care and transport services for the City of Stamford; and

WHEREAS, until 1987, emergency ambulance service in Stamford was provided by the Stamford Fire Department, the Springdale Fire Department, the Glenbrook Fire Department, and the Stamford Ambulance Corps, each of which was responsible for providing ambulance services to a different area of the City; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, a committee consisting of members from each of the local hospitals, the fire departments, the police department, the Mayor's office, and concerned citizens was formed to review plans for and establish a paramedic service in Stamford, the Stamford EMS Foundation, which began operations on May 18, 1987, consisting of three paramedics on duty 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, stationed at the Stamford Hospital, St. Joseph Medical Center, and the Turn of River Fire Department and utilizing "fly cars," as simultaneous paramedic response vehicles for all EMS calls, in addition to the ambulance and rescue units; and

WHEREAS, as a result, emergency medical services in Stamford was conducted by five separate departments with little or no coordination between departments in the training of personnel, quality assurance, or utilization of resources; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Mayor's office conducted a study of EMS services in Stamford, which concluded that EMS services could be provided more efficiently if all the services were consolidated and operated as one entity and SEMS was formed in response to this study; first combining the services of the Stamford EMS Foundation and the Stamford Ambulance Corps into SEMS and then on June 1, 1992, SEMS took over operations of the other ambulances in the city.

WHEREAS, SEMS responds to over 14,000 calls each year and is the only ambulatory service in the state accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services and although nationally about 30 percent of cardiac arrest victims survive their attack, the rate for SEMS patients is 50 percent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 29th Board of Representatives thanks the Stamford Emergency Medical Services for the valuable aid and support it provides to the residents and guests of the City of Stamford; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 29th Board of Representatives congratulates the Stamford Emergency Medical Services on celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Approved by the 29th Board of Representatives This 3rd day of April, 2017

Randall M. Skigen, President Annie M. Summerville, Clerk