

## Legislation Text

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Recognizing May 17 to May 23, 2020 as National Emergency Medical Services Week in the City of Philadelphia, and further honoring the Philadelphia Paramedics on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, National Emergency Medical Services Week is a celebration to honor the approximately 750,000 EMS providers nationwide who deliver lifesaving care, and a time when Fire and EMS Crews provide vital educational material and training to adults and children on topics such as injury prevention, recognizing an emergency, and what to do until help arrives; and

WHEREAS, The EMS System depends on the availability and coordination of many different elements, ranging from an informed public to a network of trauma centers capable of providing highly specialized care to the most seriously ill or injured; and

WHEREAS, The modern EMS System came into being in 1996, following a National Academy of Sciences report that revealed that the average American had a better chance of survival in the combat zones of Korea or Vietnam than on the nation's highways. This report galvanized public support to the creation of the modern EMS System. Today, the efforts of EMS providers at all levels have helped to make our system the most advanced in the world; and

WHEREAS, The tragic incidents of violence that prevail throughout our country further demonstrate the need for an educated citizenry and an effective EMS System that can face new challenges; and

WHEREAS, EMS Week highlights and celebrates those on the front lines of providing daily lifesaving services to members of the community; and

WHEREAS, These employees dedicate their lives to helping others and are a strong partner within our communities as well as our schools and continue to educate the general public in lifesaving techniques such as CPR, Stop the Bleed, Narcan administering, and using an AED; and

WHEREAS, EMS Professionals in Philadelphia respond to thousands of calls for help throughout the year and are often the first responders to the growing opioid epidemic gripping our City; and

WHEREAS, During a pandemic our EMS workers respond on the front lines and put their health and safety at risk to serve and protect Philadelphians falling ill to the coronavirus or needing medical attention; and

WHEREAS, Our paramedics are working overtime to continue to fight the spread of this pandemic while also taking extra precautions to treat their patients and their needs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That May 17 to May 23, 2020 be designated as National Emergency Medical Services Week; and that the Council of the City of Philadelphia does hereby honor and recognize Philadelphia Paramedics on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic for

their service to the City of Philadelphia, it's residents and visitors during this unprecedented time.