



Summer 2026 Advocacy Recess Package

Why This Matters

The House leaves DC for recess from **August 3 – August 30**, and the Senate left town on **August 8** and expected to return on **September 11**. During this window, Senators and Representatives are home in their districts at town halls, county fairs, office hours, and site visits. This is the best opportunity all year to build a relationship with your member of Congress outside the noise of DC and to make sure EMS is on their radar before key legislative activity and votes.

What We're Asking You To Do

- Request a meeting or ride along with your Representative, Senator, or district staffer.
- Attend a town hall or public event and ask a question using the talking points provided.
- Share your story — a call, good outcome, struggle, or success — using the Personal Story worksheet.

Our Legislative Priorities

To see NAEMT's advocacy priorities and the bills we support, please visit our website — <https://naemt.org/advocacy/key-naemt-legislative-issues>.

You can reference our full advocacy priorities – including summaries of each of the bills NAEMT is asking Congress to pass -- in detail before meeting with your Representative or Senator.

You can look-up and see if your Representative or Senator is cosponsor of our bills at [Legislative Search Results | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#). If they have not cosponsored, you can ask them to become a cosponsor during your visit.

Questions?

If you have any questions or need assistance with planning outreach, please do not hesitate to reach out to advocacy@naemt.org or the Government Affairs team, we are happy to help!



Local EMS Impact Fact Sheet

(Agency/Agencies or Congressional district)

Update data for every meeting!

Agency or District Snapshot

Member of Congress:

District / State:

EMS Agencies in District:

Total EMS Workforce:

Annual Call Volume:

Optimal Target and Actual Response Statistics:

Workforce Struggles:

- Career EMT/Paramedic Vacancy Rate:
- Changes in Volunteerism:

Average. Starting Pay:

- EMT/AEMT:
- Paramedic:

Notable Local Examples of Excellence and Challenges

- Opioid Overdose Rate
- ROSC Rate
- Mobile Integrated Health, Community Paramedicine, TIP and TAD Programs
- Mass-Casualty / Disaster Response
- Recent agency closures or service cuts
- Revenue vs. expense
- Payment shortfalls for different payers
- Uncompensated activities
- Cost of readiness
- No transport responses
- Uninsured/self-pay

A Story That Puts a Face on the Data

With patient/provider permission — no identifying patient details.

[Write 3–4 sentences describing a call or provider experience that vividly illustrates the value of EMS to your community.]

Meeting & Site Visit Request Letter

Edit the bracketed fields, then send by email or mail to the district office

Date: [Date]

The Honorable [Member of Congress Name]

[District Office Address]

Dear [Representative/Senator Last Name]:

On behalf of [EMS agency / NAEMT chapter name], I am writing to request a meeting during the upcoming congressional recess ([recess dates]) to discuss issues affecting emergency medical services in [district/state].

We would also welcome the opportunity to host you or your staff for a visit to [station / agency name], where you could see our crew and equipment firsthand and speak directly with the EMS providers who serve your constituents.

A visit or meeting would take approximately 30–60 minutes and could include:

- A brief tour of the station, ambulance, or dispatch floor
- A conversation with several frontline EMS providers about their motivation and lifesaving work, as well as some of our workforce and reimbursement challenges
- An overview of local call volume and response data

We are flexible on timing and can accommodate [Representative/Senator]'s recess schedule. Possible dates could include [date options].

Thank you for your continued support of emergency medical services. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Name: [Your Name]

Title / Agency: [Your Title / Agency]

Phone / Email: [Phone / Email]

Town Hall Prep Sheet

Use this to prepare beforehand, then capture notes after the event

Before You Go

- Arrive early — most town halls use a sign-up card or lottery for questions.
- Wear agency polo/uniform if permitted — it signals who you represent.
- Bring 2–3 Leave-Behind Cards to hand to staff.

Your 30-Second Ask

(Practice this aloud before you go.)

"My name is [Name], I'm a [EMT/Paramedic] with [agency] in [city/town/district]. Will you support [bill/ask] to help EMS in our community?"

Ground Rules

- Stay professional and courteous, regardless of the answer you get.
- Stick to the ask — do not get pulled into unrelated debate.
- Thank the legislator for their time, publicly, even if the answer is noncommittal.

Notes — What Was Said

Event / Location: [Location]

Date: [Date]

We want to hear from you!

If you have a productive meeting, ride along, or town hall with a Representative or Senator, email naemt@advocacy.org and let us know!

Personal Story Worksheet

A well-told, two-minute story is often more persuasive than any statistic

Prompt 1: A Call That Shows Why This Work Matters

Describe one call (no identifying patient details) that illustrates the value of EMS to your community.

Prompt 2: How Reimbursement or Staffing Has Affected You

Describe a personal or agency-level impact — a shift you had to cover short-staffed, a service cut, a pay issue.

Prompt 3: Talk About an Innovative Practice

Describe something special that you do at your agency – innovative equipment or protocol, MIH or CP program, community outreach activity, etc.

Trim It to Two Minutes

Read it aloud and time yourself. Cut anything that is not essential to the point. End with the ask — what you want the legislator to do.

Thank-You Note Template

Send within a few days of any meeting, visit, or town hall exchange

Date: [Date]

Dear [Representative/Senator Last Name] (or staff name),

Thank you for taking the time to [meet with us / visit our station / speak with us at the town hall] on [date]. We appreciated the chance to talk about [topic discussed] and to share how it affects EMS providers and patients in [district/state].

As a reminder, we would ask that you consider supporting and cosponsor [bill/ask]. We are glad to serve as an ongoing local resource when you and your staff have questions about EMS in the district.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Name: [Your Name]

Title / Agency: [Your Title / Agency]