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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Emergency Services Facing More Challenges

As we continue to fight an uphill battle with COVID-19 and ongoing civil unrest, our emergency services are struggling to stay afloat. Even in the most difficult of times, our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel are continuing to respond to emergency calls day in and day out for each and every one of us that are in need of help. We may be calling 911 because we are trapped inside of a vehicle after a crash, our child can't breathe, or our loved one may be having a heart attack or stroke.

These brave men and women are on the front lines and are the first point of contact to provide medical assistance before an individual is transported to the hospital to receive the care they may desperately need. In the 92nd Assembly District, we have very rural communities that rely on our EMS volunteers. As we face many challenges in 2020, our small departments are in dire need of funding to pay for the increased Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other changes in protocol that have burdened our EMS services with millions of unexpected costs.

Unfortunately, Governor Evers did not include EMS and ambulance providers when he denied them of the \$100 million he originally designated in state assistance through the roughly \$2 billion he received in federal CARES funding. With Governor Evers still having CARES ACT money available, I strongly encourage him to provide for those who care for us in our moments of need.

I will continue to strongly advocate for our emergency services, just as I have my bill Assembly Bill 469 that passed unanimously in the Assembly this past session and is waiting to be voted on in the Senate and then for Governor Evers to sign into law to help our emergency personnel.

With the 19th anniversary of September 11th this year, I would also ask that our community members consider thanking an emergency service provider or even offering to bring them meals and cards as they continue to serve the most vulnerable.

As always, feel free to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns.

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