



**MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS**

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A Chapter of the
American College of
Emergency Physicians

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45th Michigan EM

Assembly

July 29 – August 1, 2018

Grand Hotel

Mackinac Island, MI

November 8, 2017

Michigan House of Representatives

P.O. Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909-7514

RE: Michigan College of Emergency Physicians (MCEP) comments in regards to
HB 5217, 5218, and 5219

To the Honorable House of Representatives:

MCEP is supportive of the concept of cost effective emergency care. When less expensive means of care or transportation for a patient can be utilized without adversely affecting the care of the patient, those less expensive means should be employed. In the situation where the physician believes a patient's life is in jeopardy, or has the potential to deteriorate in the matter of minutes to hours, emergency care or transfer to a higher level of care should not be delayed to verify a patient's insurance benefits or estimate costs related to delivery of emergency care or transfer.

In circumstances where a patient is hospitalized and in stable condition and requires transfer to another facility, it is prudent to verify whether or not a patient's insurance would cover transfer, whether it be by air or ground, and an estimate of the associated cost. A consent form documenting the patient's acknowledgement and consent to the factors involved including costs of transfer is reasonable in a stable hospitalized patient.

MCEP is supportive of statewide coordination of air medical services to standardize transport protocols and procedures. MCEP is also supportive of full transparency of risks and benefits of air medical services including costs. MCEP supports the position that insurance companies should cover the costs of transportation when the physician believes there is an emergency medical condition requiring emergency transport.

Sincerely,

Jacob Manteuffel, MD, FACEP
President