



BOB CASEY

FIGHTING for PENNSYLVANIA FAMILIES

The EMS Counts Act

Led by Senators Casey (D-PA) and Collins (R-ME)

Why do we need the EMS Counts Act?

Emergency medical services (EMS) personnel can be a diverse group of first responders that include Paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and dual-role firefighters. Under their current classification system, the U.S. Department of Labor does not accurately classify firefighters whose primary job is being a paramedic or EMT. Not recognizing their cross-training leads to a *significant and chronic undercount of EMS personnel*, leaving potential vulnerabilities in emergency response.

What would the EMS Counts Act do?

The EMS Counts Act would require the Department of Labor to collect accurate occupational data on first responders, particularly firefighters and EMS personnel. These changes would address the chronic miscounting of EMS personnel by allowing firefighters to identify themselves as cross-trained EMS providers and paramedics.

Specifically, this bill would direct the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to revise the broad description under the occupational series "33-2011 16 Firefighters" of the 2018 Standard Occupational Classification System of BLS to include the following new occupations:

- Firefighters.
- Firefighter/EMTs.
- Firefighter/Paramedics.
- Firefighters, All Other.

This bill would ensure the federal government collects accurate, comprehensive data on the quantity, location and training of first responders throughout the Commonwealth and across the Nation, *helping communities better plan for emergencies and disasters.*

Supporting Organizations

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, International Association of Fire Chiefs, International Association of Fire Fighters, American Ambulance Association, National Association of State EMS Officials, National Association of EMS Physicians, National Association of EMS Educators, International Academy of Emergency Dispatch, National EMS Management Association, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, Association of Air Medical Services.