

# Subcommittee on Federal Lands

Tom McClintock, Chairman

## Hearing Memorandum

April 6, 2018

To: All Subcommittee on Federal Lands Members

From: Majority Committee Staff - Terry Camp  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Hearing: Legislative hearing on **H.R. 1037 (Rep. Stephen F. Lynch)**, To authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.  
**April 11, 2018, 2:00 PM; 1324 Longworth House Office Building**

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### Summary of the Bill

H.R. 1037, introduced by Representative Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA-08), authorizes the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation (Foundation) to establish a commemorative work on federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the commitment and service represented by providers of emergency medical services. H.R. 1037 prohibits the use of federal funds to pay any expense of the establishment of such work, makes the Foundation solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of such work, provides for the deposit of excess funds received for such work into a National Park Foundation account.

### Cosponsors

[15 Cosponsors](#)

### Witnesses

*The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch*  
Member of Congress, Massachusetts's 8th District

*Ms. Katherine Orsino*  
Executive Director  
National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation  
Stoneham, MA

### Background

The men and women of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) profession face daily risk and danger to help their neighbors in crisis and to save lives. EMS practitioners serve on the frontlines of medicine, safeguarding the health, safety, and wellbeing of the nation's

communities. While their first-responder peers in law enforcement and firefighting have been honored with national memorials, EMS providers have not.<sup>1</sup>

EMS providers are critical to the nation's safety. They respond to incidents ranging from a single person's medical emergency to natural and man-made disasters, including terrorist attacks. The men and women of EMS, along with those in law enforcement and firefighters, are a vital part of the country's homeland and national security efforts.

Each year, 850,000 EMS providers answer more than 30 million calls to serve 22 million patients in need at a moment's notice and without reservation.<sup>2</sup> According to data from the Department of Labor and the National Highway Safety Administration, Emergency Medical Technicians and paramedics have a rate of injury that is about three times the national average for all occupations.<sup>3</sup>

H.R. 1037 would authorize the Foundation, a registered 501(c)(3) organization, to place a commemorative work on federal land in the District of Columbia to commemorate the commitment and service represented by the EMS community. The establishment of a commemorative work will comply with the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. § 8901 et seq.), no federal funds may be used to pay for the commemorative work, and the Foundation will be solely responsible for funding the project.

On August 1, 2017, Senator Christopher A. Coons (D-DE) introduced a companion Senate bill, S. 1692. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill favorably reported on March 8, 2018.

### **Cost**

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate has not yet been completed for H.R. 1037. However, a CBO cost estimate has been provided for S. 1692 and the texts are similar. CBO estimated that implementing the bill would have no effect on spending subject to appropriation. Additionally, CBO found that based on the experience with similar commemorative projects, any amounts collected by the federal government for maintenance of the memorial would not be received for several years and would be offset by an expenditure soon thereafter. Thus, on net, CBO estimated that the effect on direct spending would be insignificant.

### **Administration Position**

The Administration has not taken a formal position on H.R. 1037. However, National Park Service Deputy Director P. Dan Smith testified before the Senate Committee on Energy and

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<sup>1</sup> The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial is located at 400 E Street NW, Washington, DC.

The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial is located on South Seton Ave, Emmitsburg, MD.

<sup>2</sup> 2011 National EMS Assessment. Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services. US DOT, National Highway Safety Administration. [https://www.ems.gov/pdf/research/Studies-and-Reports/National\\_EMS\\_Assessment\\_2011.pdf](https://www.ems.gov/pdf/research/Studies-and-Reports/National_EMS_Assessment_2011.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Maguire BJ, Smith S. Injuries and fatalities among emergency medical technicians and paramedics in the United States. *Prehospital Disaster Medicine*. 2013, Aug; 28 (4): 376-382.

Natural Resources on February 14, 2018, in support of the Senate companion legislation, S. 1692.

**Effect on Current Law (Ramseyer)**

None.