

## **Resolution No. 38**

### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Legislative & Political**

**Re: Prioritize Increases in the Public Provider Ground  
Emergency Medical Transport (PP-GEMT) Rate**

1           WHEREAS, the Public Provider Ground  
2           Emergency Medical Transport (PP-GEMT)  
3           Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) program was  
4           established by the Department of Health Care  
5           Services (DHCS) and provides increased  
6           reimbursement rates for public providers; and

7           WHEREAS, these supplemental reimbursement  
8           payments support the provision of ambulance  
9           transport by public entities and ensure that they are  
10          able to maintain the highest quality service for all  
11          patients and not just those with private insurance; and

12          WHEREAS, the rates for PP-GEMT are set by  
13          State Plan Amendments (SPAs) to the Medicaid  
14          State Plan, which describes the nature and scope of  
15          state Medi-Cal programs; and

16          WHEREAS, these SPAs must be approved on an  
17          annual basis by the Centers for Medicare and  
18          Medicaid Services; and

19          WHEREAS, the current fee schedule rate for  
20          transport is \$118.20 with the reimbursement add-on  
21          rate at \$1,049.98, with a resulting payment amount of  
22          \$1,168.18; and

23          WHEREAS, the SPA submitted by the state of  
24          California for 2025 would set the fee schedule rate  
25          for transport at \$118.20 with the reimbursement add-

26 on rate at \$1,478.68, with a resulting payment  
27 amount of \$1,596.88 and the 2026 SPA proposes an  
28 add-on rate of \$1,518.61 for a total of \$1,636.81; and

29 WHEREAS, these SPAs have not yet been  
30 approved by CMS and the reimbursement rate cannot  
31 be increased until such time as it is approved; and

32 WHEREAS, the provision of fire-based EMS is  
33 one of the core tenets of the California fire service,  
34 and a reimbursement rate that reflects the true costs  
35 of providing transport for EMS calls is critical for  
36 ensuring the long-term sustainability of these  
37 programs; and

38 WHEREAS, the increasing cost of healthcare,  
39 staffing, and provision of EMS service necessitates  
40 an increase in the reimbursement rate for public  
41 providers; therefore be it

42 RESOLVED, That the International Association  
43 of Fire Fighters shall pursue an increase in the rate of  
44 reimbursement of PP-GEMT via both the approval of  
45 pending SPAs at CMS and the prioritization of  
46 continued increases as federal policy priority.

Submitted by: California Professional Firefighters

Cost Estimate: **None**

Annual or Perpetual Designation: **N/A**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

**CONVENTION ACTION:**