

## **Resolution No. 16**

### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Policy**

**Re: Opposition to Changing Common Nomenclature of  
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to  
“Paramedicine” in the United States**

1           WHEREAS, the common term “Emergency  
2           Medical Services” (EMS) is a term recognized by  
3           both providers and the public in the United States to  
4           define out-of-hospital care; and

5           WHEREAS, EMS care is provided by four levels  
6           of EMS providers, which are identified by national  
7           consensus titles including: Emergency Medical  
8           Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician  
9           (EMT), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician  
10          (AEMT), and Paramedic; and

11          WHEREAS, these provider levels correspond to  
12          education standards along with both state and  
13          National Registry examinations, and are the most  
14          commonly used terms for certification and licensure  
15          in all 50 states and United States territories; and

16          WHEREAS, the training and education for each  
17          of these provider levels is based on practical analysis,  
18          core competencies, scope of practice, and education  
19          standards; and

20          WHEREAS, each level is distinctly different and  
21          their titles reflect the proper title for each level of  
22          EMS providers; and

23          WHEREAS, the present subset of EMS providers  
24          practicing as paramedics in the U.S. represents fewer  
25          numbers than any of the other levels; and

26          WHEREAS, some leaders of the EMS industry  
27          desire to replace the name “Emergency Medical

28 Services” with the blanket term “Paramedicine”; and  
29 WHEREAS, standardizing the reference to all  
30 providers as “paramedics” would create confusion  
31 among providers, the public, and EMS services  
32 agencies; therefore be it

33 RESOLVED, That the IAFF opposes eliminating  
34 the commonly accepted nomenclature of EMR,  
35 EMT, AEMT and Paramedic to name all provider  
36 levels “Paramedic”; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That the IAFF supports the position  
38 that all fire fighters, EMS providers, and government  
39 agencies continue to use the common term  
40 “Emergency Medical Services” and the common  
41 nomenclature for EMR, EMT, AEMT, and  
42 Paramedic; and be it further

43 RESOLVED, That the IAFF will oppose any  
44 legislative or rule making attempts to eliminate the  
45 commonly accepted term “Emergency Medical  
46 Services” and the common nomenclature for EMR,  
47 EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic.

Submitted by: IAFF Executive Board

Cost Estimate: None

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Adopt**

**CONVENTION ACTION: Adopted**