2011 WSCFF Convention Resolution

SUBJECT: Physician-Patient Privilege
RESOLUTION #: 11-17

WHEREAS: RCW 5.60.060(4) creates a patient-physician privilege that extends to doctors, nurses and physician assistants; and

WHEREAS: Case law omits paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and emergency medical responders from being covered by this privilege; and

WHEREAS: Paramedics, EMTs, and first responders are health care providers who provide health care to patients in the absence of a physician; and

WHEREAS: Patients must be encouraged to make full disclosure to the treating health care providers free of the worry that an embarrassing condition might become public knowledge; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the WSCFF pursue options to establish a privilege for information given to any pre-hospital care provider while providing health care to a patient.

SUBMITTED BY: EMS

Committee	Action Taken	Recommendation
EMS		Do Pass
Legislative	Amended	Do Pass as Amended
EMS		Do Pass as Amended
Floor	Adopted as Amended	

ASSIGNED DESIGNATION: President & 5th District Representative