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To: Assembly Committee on Local Government
From: Curt Witynski, J.D., Deputy Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Toni Herkert, Government Affairs Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Date: February 2, 2022
Re: AB 874, Payment for Emergency Medical Transportation services under Medical Assistance (Medicaid) program

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities supports AB 874, enabling municipalities to recover a greater amount of the cost they incur when providing ambulance services to Medicaid patients. Currently, only a portion of each Medicaid call is reimbursed by the Medicaid program, which creates significant budgeting challenges for municipal EMS departments serving a high percentage of Medicaid patients. AB 874 establishes a process involving the state and federal governments that allows local EMS systems to obtain supplemental Medicaid reimbursement payments.

Nearly 80 percent of the emergency medical services in Wisconsin are owned, operated, or supported by city, village, and town governments. Many of these municipal EMS departments serve varying percentages of Medicaid patients. This bill offers valuable help for funding a vital local government service.

The League applauds and thanks Rep. Amy Loudenbeck and Sen. Mary Felzkowski and their staff for working with a range of stakeholders to draft this legislation.

We urge the committee recommend passage of AB 874. Thanks for considering our comments.