



## CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

May 11, 2016

Council President Linda Morad  
Members of the City Council  
City Hall  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: Emergency Medical Services - Fees

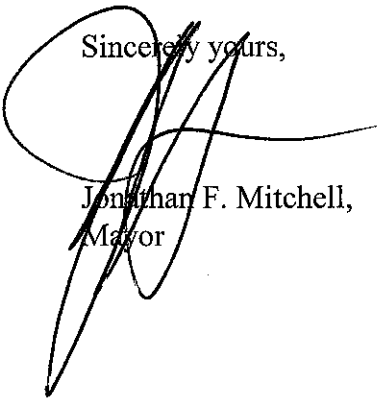
Dear Council President Morad and Members of the City Council:

Enclosed for your consideration, please find a draft Ordinance amending Section 19-135.2 to establish EMS rates that are equal to the Medicare National Fee Schedule +200% rate for ambulance services. Many Massachusetts communities have already established a rate of +200% of the Medicare rate.

In the vast majority of cases, this rate increase will not result in increases in out of pocket costs for our patients. For Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield patients, there will be no out of pocket increase. For other insurance patients, there will be no out of pocket increase after their deductible has been satisfied. Uninsured patients will see an increase in their bill. However, since many of the uninsured patients do not have an ability to pay, they would be considered under our hardship program, for a reduction of the amount billed.

A representative of the Emergency Medical Services Department will be available to respond to any questions that the Council may have regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

  
Jonathan F. Mitchell,  
Mayor

cc: Mark McGraw  
Ari Sky



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

In the Year Two Thousand

## AN ORDINANCE

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Amending Chapter 19, Article V, DIVISION 4. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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31- 509

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of New Bedford as follows:—

### SECTION 1.

Chapter 19, § 19-135.2(d) is hereby amended by striking "one hundred and twenty five (125) percent" and inserting in place thereof "two hundred (200) percent", so the section reads as follows:

(d) Fees for the emergency medical services department shall be equal to the "Medicare National Fee Schedule", as amended, plus two hundred (200) percent.

### SECTION 2.

This ordinance shall take affect in accordance with the provisions of chapter 43 of the general laws.