

**CONFIRE**

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 07, 2026

FROM: Joe Barna

Interim Deputy Executive Director

TO: EMS Subcommittee

SUBJECT: AB660 DATA SHARING

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive an informational update regarding the California Data Exchange Framework Data Sharing Agreement requirement, actions already taken by CONFIRE, and the anticipated EMSA/HCAI pathway for EMS data exchange. No formal action is requested.

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the California Data Exchange Framework Data Sharing Agreement requirement as it relates to CONFIRE and EMS providers, including ALS fire agencies.

After receiving information from ICEMA and reviewing the issue with legal counsel, CONFIRE moved forward with execution of the HCAI Data Sharing Agreement and notified the county fire/EMS group of the potential actions their agencies may need to take.

The purpose of this report is to summarize the requirement, the actions taken to date, and the State's anticipated EMSA/HCAI approach for EMS data exchange. This item is provided for information and discussion only.

BACKGROUND

The California Data Exchange Framework is a statewide initiative intended to improve the exchange of health and social services information among participating organizations. Senate Bill 660 expanded the framework to include emergency medical services entities.

For EMS agencies, the requirement has two components:

1. Execution of the HCAI Data Sharing Agreement, which is the administrative authorization step.
2. Ongoing EMS data exchange, which addresses how EMS data will ultimately be exchanged under the framework.

While agencies are expected to complete the Data Sharing Agreement, the longer-term EMS data exchange process is still being developed at the State level.

ACTIONS TAKEN

Following guidance received from ICEMA and review by legal counsel, CONFIRE completed the Data Sharing Agreement process.

CONFIRE also notified the County Fire Chiefs of the potential applicability of the requirement

and encouraged each agency to determine whether it applies to their organization and complete the DSA process, if appropriate.

The intent was to provide practical information and adequate notice, not to make a legal determination for individual agencies. Each agency remains responsible for confirming its own compliance obligations with ICEMA, HCAI, EMSA, or agency counsel, as appropriate.

CURRENT UNDERSTANDING

Based on the information currently available, ALS fire agencies may fall within the category of emergency medical services entities subject to the Data Sharing Agreement requirement, including non-transport ALS first-response agencies.

CONFIRE has proceeded under that understanding. The immediate requirement is the execution of the Data Sharing Agreement, while the technical data exchange process continues to be developed.

EMSA / HCAI DATA EXCHANGE PATHWAY

ICEMA has advised that EMSA and HCAI are working on an agreement that would allow EMSA to serve as an intermediary for EMS data already submitted through CEMSIS.

If implemented, this approach could allow EMS providers to continue using existing CEMSIS reporting rather than developing separate direct connections to HCAI. Staff will continue to monitor this effort and provide updates as additional guidance becomes available.

KEY POINTS FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE

1. SB 660 expanded the California Data Exchange Framework to include EMS entities.
2. CONFIRE reviewed the requirement with legal counsel and completed the Data Sharing Agreement process.
3. County fire/EMS agencies were notified so they could evaluate whether the requirement applies to their organization.
4. The immediate requirement is execution of the Data Sharing Agreement.
5. The technical EMS data exchange process is still being developed by EMSA and HCAI.
6. The anticipated EMSA/CEMSIS intermediary pathway may reduce the technical burden on EMS providers.
7. This item is presented for information and discussion.

DISCUSSION

This report is intended to keep the EMS Subcommittee informed of the requirement, the actions already taken by CONFIRE, and the State's ongoing work to establish an EMSA intermediary pathway for EMS data exchange.

Staff will continue to monitor guidance from ICEMA, EMSA, and HCAI and will provide updates as implementation progresses.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file the report. No formal action is requested at this time.