

Sheffield proclaims EMS week throughout Alaska

Gov. Bill Sheffield has proclaimed this week as Emergency Medical Services Week to honor the hundreds of emergency medical technicians and paramedics who staff Alaska's 85 ambulance services, as well as the community health aides, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and doctors who provide emergency care.

Alaska is joining several other states throughout the nation in recognizing the efforts of emergency care providers during EMS Week.

Special recognition also is being given to the hundreds of volunteer EMTs in Alaska, many of whom are

on call around the clock, every day. These people frequently are called out during the late-night hours, on holidays and in extreme weather conditions.

In many small communities and rural areas, these volunteers are the only emergency medical responders available.

Several hospital and emergency medical services throughout Alaska are planning special events to recognize EMS Week. Those who want more information may contact Mark Johnson at 465-3027 in Juneau.