

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ROS

L.D. 1676

Date:

6/9/25

(Filing No. H-598)

MINORITY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

132ND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1111, L.D. 1676, "Resolve, to Study Ways to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Rural Emergency Medical Services Personnel Through Access to Health Insurance"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Study Ways to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Rural Emergency Services Personnel'

Amend the resolve in section 1 in the last line (page 1, line 3 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "medical services personnel through access to health insurance" and inserting the following: 'services personnel including, but not limited to, emergency medical services persons, volunteer or part-time firefighters and health care workers'

Amend the resolve in section 2 in subsection 1 in paragraph A in the 2nd line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "services" the following: 'or firefighting'

Amend the resolve in section 2 in subsection 1 by inserting after paragraph B the following:

'C. One member who represents a statewide association of volunteer firefighters;'

Amend the resolve in section 2 in subsection 1 by relettering the paragraphs to read alphabetically.

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall study ways to improve recruitment and retention of emergency services personnel in rural areas of the State. In its study, the commission may examine all benefits that may incentivize the recruitment and retention of rural emergency services personnel, which must include, at a minimum:

1. Increased access to health insurance;
2. Financial incentives including stipends, tuition assistance and loan forgiveness;
3. Increased access to mental health support;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1111, L.D. 1676

- 1 4. Retirement contributions or service credits;
- 2 5. Volunteer recognition and professional advancement pathways; and
- 3 6. An examination of the recommendations made by the Municipal Volunteer Working
- 4 Group as established by Resolve 2015, chapter 49. This examination must include a review
- 5 of that working group's recommendations that have been implemented and whether the
- 6 recommendations that have not been implemented are still appropriate.'
- 7 Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
- 8 section number to read consecutively.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, changes the title and
11 expands the scope of the resolve to include emergency medical services persons, volunteer
12 or part-time firefighters and health care workers. The amendment also provides additional
13 detail on what issues the commission should examine to improve recruitment and retention
14 of these individuals, including increased access to health insurance, financial incentives,
15 increased access to mental health support, retirement benefits and professional
16 advancement pathways, and directs the commission to review the recommendations made
17 by the Municipal Volunteer Working Group as established by Resolve 2015, chapter 49 to
18 determine whether those recommendations are still appropriate.

19 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

20 (See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



Approved: 05/31/25 **LRL**

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1676

LR 1938(02)

**Resolve, to Study Ways to Improve Recruitment and Retention of Rural Emergency Medical Services
Personnel Through Access to Health Insurance**

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-598)
Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Public Safety from convening the commission and reporting the results are also expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to serve on a commission are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.