

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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27
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L.D. 1682

DATE: 3/5/96

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TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1229, L.D. 1682, Bill, "An Act to Transfer the Responsibility for Air Search and Rescue from the Commissioner of Transportation to the Chief of the State Police"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of the first 2 lines (page 1, lines 3 and 4 in L.D.) and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 1. 6 MRSA §303, as amended by PL 1995, c. 504, Pt. B, §6, is further amended to read:'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§303." by striking out all of subsections 3 and 4 (page 1, lines 28 to 49 and page 2, lines 1 to 17 in L.D.) and inserting in their place the following:

'3. **Plan of action.** The state air search and rescue plan shall must provide a plan of action for search and rescue which that will mobilize all state and federal agencies which that can contribute in those emergencies and inform all State state and federal agencies which that request to be informed of any air search operation, in accordance with agreements reached in advance ~~and which relies upon.~~ The plan may include utilization of the Maine Wing Civil Air Patrol to coordinate and control specific air search operations. The plan shall must provide that its first objective shall-be is saving human life and rendering prompt aid to survivors.

4. **Authority.** The ~~commissioner~~ Chief of the State Police is responsible for the execution and overall coordination of air

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2 search and rescue efforts initiated in support of the air search
and rescue plan by the Maine Wing Civil Air Patrol and those
4 state and federal agencies which that are designated in the plan
to play an-assisting a role in emergencies.

6 A-1. The Chief of the State Police may delegate authority
for overall coordination of air search and rescue efforts to
8 a commissioned officer within the Bureau of State Police.

10 ~~B. The Director of the Division of Aeronautics shall~~
communicate and coordinate directly with the Air Search
12 ~~Mission Coordinator, an official of the Maine Wing Civil Air~~
Patrol, who is involved in coordinating and controlling the
14 ~~specific air search operations conducted under the air~~
search and rescue plan.

16 ~~C. The Director of the Division of Aeronautics shall~~
communicate and coordinate with state agencies who have
18 ~~agreed to offer mutual support in implementing the~~
cooperative action plan for air search and rescue, when the
20 ~~assistance is needed in searching for missing persons. The~~
director shall immediately inform the Bureau of Marine
22 ~~Patrol of any aircraft that is believed lost over coastal~~
waters of the State and keep the bureau apprised of the
24 ~~progress of the search for that aircraft.~~

28 STATEMENT OF FACT

30 The bill as amended makes the Chief of the State Police
responsible for developing an air search and rescue plan and
32 allows that plan to determine the notification system for and to
specify the role of various agencies in air search and rescue
34 operations.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT