

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 85, L.D. 92, Bill, "An Act to Establish the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority"

Amend the bill by inserting before the emergency preamble the following:

'Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, two thirds of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 (page 2, lines 26 to 46 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 3. Powers. The authority may:

1. Employ and compensate personnel, consultants, technical and professional assistants and an emergency medical services medical director;

2. Make and enter into contracts and agreements and, pursuant to the bylaws of the authority, purchase or lease all vehicles and equipment necessary to provide emergency medical services to members;

3. Hold public hearings and sponsor public forums;

4. Sue and be sued in its own name;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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2 5. Accept funds, grants and services from federal, state,
3 county and municipal governments or any agency thereof, gifts and
4 stipends from its member towns, private gifts from individuals
5 and entities and stipends and subsidies from Canadian governments
6 for the provision of services to Campobello Island and the
7 Province of New Brunswick; and

8
9 6. Apply for and accept loans and allocate and disburse
10 funds received to carry out the purposes of the authority.

11 Debts of the authority authorized under this Act do not
12 constitute or create any debt or liability on behalf of the
13 State. Debts incurred under this Act do not directly, indirectly
14 or contingently obligate the State to levy or to pledge any form
15 of taxation or to make any appropriation for their payment. This
16 subsection may not be construed to prevent the authority from
17 pledging its full faith and credit to the payment of loans or
18 other debts authorized pursuant to this Act.'

19
20 Further amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 1 in the
21 first line (page 2, line 50 in L.D.) by inserting after the
22 following: "budget" the following: 'and require an annual audit
23 that is made available for public inspection'

24
25 Further amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 5 in the
26 first line (page 3, line 34 in L.D.) by striking out the
27 following: "6 members" and inserting in its place the
28 following: 'established in the bylaws of the authority'

29
30 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
31 summary the following:

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33
34 **FISCAL NOTE**

35
36 The requirement that the Washington County Emergency Medical
37 Services Authority be established represents a state mandate
38 pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. The additional local
39 costs can not be determined at this time. Pursuant to the
40 mandate preamble, the 2/3 vote of all members elected to each
41 House exempts the State from the constitutional requirement to
42 fund 90% of the additional local costs.'

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44
45 **SUMMARY**

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47 This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.
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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 85, L.D. 92

1. It clarifies the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority's power to purchase and lease emergency medical services equipment and vehicles.

2. It clarifies that the authority is allowed to accept private gifts from individuals.

3. It requires that the authority be audited annually.

4. It clarifies that debts incurred by the authority do not create any debt liability on the part of the State.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.