

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1993

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MAJORITY  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1490, L.D. 1993, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority has been established to provide emergency medical services to the communities of Washington County that were without an emergency medical services provider last year; and

**Whereas,** the Legislature has created the quasi-municipal authority to secure emergency medical services for Washington County; and

**Whereas,** other communities located in the Washington County region have requested the authority to provide their emergency medical services as well; and

**Whereas,** other modifications to the laws governing the authority are necessary for its continued successful operation; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §1** is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 1. Establishment.** The Washington County Emergency  
7 Medical Services Authority, referred to in this Act as "the  
8 authority," is established to facilitate the provision of  
9 emergency medical services to the citizens of Washington County.  
10 The authority also may provide emergency medical services upon  
11 request and by contract to municipalities located in the southern  
12 Aroostook County region, the northern Penobscot County region and  
13 the Province of New Brunswick.

14 **Sec. 2. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §2, sub-§2, ¶¶O and P** are amended to  
15 read:

18 O. Danforth, selected by its selectmen; and

20 P. Baring, selected by its assessors; and

22 **Sec. 3. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §2, sub-§2, ¶Q** is enacted to read:

24 Q. One member from the Passamaquoddy Tribe, selected by the  
25 Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

26 **Sec. 4. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §2, last ¶** is amended to read:

28 The members of the board are appointed for terms of one year  
29 and may be reappointed at the pleasure of the appointing  
30 authority. The appointing authority may also appoint an  
31 alternate who may vote in the absence of the appointed member  
32 from that constituency. If the appointing authority fails to  
33 appoint a member within 60 days of a vacancy, then the seat may  
34 be declared vacant by the chair of the authority and the vacant  
35 seat may not be counted toward a quorum. In the event that any  
36 community that has appointment authority has not paid its per  
37 capita stipend as determined by regular vote of the board, that  
38 community's representative or alternate may not vote on any  
39 matter relating to the finances of the authority.

42 **Sec. 5. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §3, sub-§§5 and 6** are amended to read:

44 5. Accept funds, grants and services from federal, state,  
45 county and municipal governments or any agency thereof, gifts and  
46 stipends from its member towns, private gifts from individuals  
47 and entities and stipends and subsidies from Canadian governments  
48 for the provision of services to Campobello Island and the  
Province of New Brunswick; and

2 6. Apply for and accept loans and allocate and disburse  
4 funds received to carry out the purposes of the authority.

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

14 **Sec. 6. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §3, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

16 7. Implement an intercounty subscription membership program  
18 with cities, towns and unorganized territories in counties near  
Washington County.

20 **Sec. 7. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §4, sub-§5** is amended to read:

22 5. Set and adjust an approved cost-basis schedule that is  
24 uniform throughout the county service area. The cost-basis  
schedule may reflect either a surcharge or a discount based on  
whether a particular community pays a subsidy, as long as all  
26 such surcharges or discounts are based on cost of service and are  
uniform for each class of community.

28 **Sec. 8. P&SL 2001, c. 1, §5, sub-§1** is amended to read:

30 1. The board shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and secretary  
32 and--treasurer from among its members, including alternate  
members. The board shall also elect a treasurer. The treasurer  
34 is not required to be a member or alternate member of the board.

36 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
38 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

## 40 SUMMARY

42 This amendment replaces the bill. It adds an emergency  
44 preamble and clause. It expands the service area of the  
Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority. It adds  
46 one member from the Passamaquoddy Tribe to the board of directors  
of the authority and establishes the appointing authority for  
48 that member. The amendment also allows appointing authorities to  
appoint alternate members to the board of directors and  
authorizes those alternate members to vote in the absence of the  
50 appointed member. The amendment also allows the board of

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1490, L.D. 1993

2 directors to elect a treasurer who is not a member or alternate  
member of the authority. Finally, the amendment allows the  
4 approved cost-basis schedule to include either a surcharge or  
discount to certain member communities.