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Legislative Document

No. 1683

S.P. 628

In Senate, May 25, 2005

An Act To Clarify Entities Eligible for Funding by the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205. Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MAYO of Sagadahoc. Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and Senator: BROMLEY of Cumberland. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

- Whereas, questions have arisen as to the ability of the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to finance the acquisition of air ambulances as an eligible entity or facility; and
- 10 Whereas, it is vitally necessary to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Maine that the State enjoy a 12 coordinated air ambulance system; and

14 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 16 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 18 safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2053, sub-§3-A, as amended by PL 2001, c. 596, Pt. B, §7 and affected by §25, is further amended to read:

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- 24 3-A. Health care facility. "Health care facility" means a 26 nursing home that is, or will be upon completion, licensed under chapter 405; a residential care facility that is, or will be upon 28 completion, licensed under chapter 1663; a continuing care retirement community that is, or will be upon completion, licensed under Title 24-A, chapter 73; an assisted living 30 facility that is, or will be upon completion, licensed under 32 chapter 1664; a hospital; a community mental health facility; a scene response air ambulance licensed under Title 32, chapter 2-B 34 and the rules adopted thereunder; or a community health center.
 - 36 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.
 - SUMMARY
- 42 This bill expands the list of entities and facilities that qualify for financing by the Maine Health and Higher Educational 44 Facilities Authority to include certain licensed air ambulances.