

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 748

H.P. 501

House of Representatives, March 5, 2015

**An Act To Provide for Tiered Qualifications for Volunteer
Firefighters in Certain Municipalities**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HEAD of Bethel.
Cosponsored by Representatives: HAMANN of South Portland, PETERSON of Rumford,
VACHON of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §2102, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

3 **3. Municipalities of fewer than 2,500 permanent residents.** The fire chief of a fire
4 department in a municipality with fewer than 2,500 permanent residents, with the
5 approval of the municipal officers of that municipality, may approve training for
6 volunteer firefighters in accordance with Title 30-A, section 3154, subsection 4.

7 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §3154, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

8 **4. Tiers of volunteer firefighters.** In a municipality with fewer than 2,500
9 permanent residents, the fire chief, with the approval of the municipal officers of that
10 municipality, may approve training for volunteer firefighters that provides for 3 tiers of
11 qualifications based on the requirements of Title 26, chapter 28. At the highest tier, the
12 municipality must have at least 3 firefighters who meet the highest level training
13 requirement. At the middle tier, the municipality must have firefighters trained to a
14 middle level and who are qualified to perform all firefighter services except for entry into
15 a burning building. At the lowest tier, the municipality must have firefighters trained to a
16 basic level and who are qualified to perform basic firefighter duties including, but not
17 limited to, handling fire hoses, trucks and equipment.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill provides that in a municipality with fewer than 2,500 permanent residents
20 the fire chief, with the approval of the municipal officers of that municipality, may
21 approve training for volunteer firefighters that provides for 3 tiers of qualifications as
22 follows:

23 1. At the highest tier 3 firefighters;

24 2. At the middle tier firefighters who are trained and who are qualified to perform all
25 firefighter services except for entry into a burning building; and

26 3. At the lowest tier firefighters who are trained and who are qualified to perform
27 basic firefighter duties including, but not limited to, handling fire hoses, trucks and
28 equipment.