



## **128th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1462

S.P. 508

In Senate, April 18, 2017

Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Facilitate the Acquisition of Basic Emergency Medical Training in Rural Communities in the State

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

Heath & Print

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President THIBODEAU of Waldo. Cosponsored by Representative GILLWAY of Searsport and Senator: MAKER of Washington, Representatives: GERRISH of Lebanon, KINNEY of Knox, ZEIGLER of Montville.

- 1 **Whereas,** a large percentage of emergency medical services personnel in rural areas 2 of the State are volunteers; and
- 3 Whereas, demographic changes are depleting the pool of available emergency 4 medical services personnel, and rural emergency medical services entities struggle to 5 recruit volunteers; and
- 6 **Whereas,** it is critical to address issues of recruitment of emergency medical 7 services personnel, especially in the rural areas of the State; now, therefore, be it

8 Sec. 1. Basic emergency medical training; pilot project. Resolved: That the 9 Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall establish an 10 emergency medical services apprenticeship pilot project to expand the pool of available 11 emergency medical services personnel. Maine Emergency Medical Services shall 12 establish apprenticeship programs in 4 geographically diverse towns in the State with 13 5,000 or fewer residents and, as part of the pilot project, shall ensure the provision of 14 accessible and affordable basic emergency medical training classes in those towns.

Maine Emergency Medical Services shall provide a report by January 15, 2019 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over emergency medical services matters regarding the status of the pilot project and its effect on the number of emergency medical services personnel in rural areas of the State and containing recommendations for the continuance, discontinuance or modification of the pilot project.

- 20 The pilot project terminates March 15, 2020.
- 21

## SUMMARY

22 The purpose of this resolve is to address issues of recruitment of emergency medical services personnel in the rural areas of the State. This resolve directs the Department of 23 24 Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services to establish an emergency medical 25 services apprenticeship pilot project to expand the pool of available emergency medical Maine Emergency Medical Services is directed to establish 26 services personnel. 27 apprenticeship programs in 4 geographically diverse towns in the State having 5,000 or fewer residents and provide accessible and affordable basic emergency medical training 28 29 classes in those towns.