MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 662

H.P. 489

House of Representatives, March 3, 2021

An Act To Provide Chiefs of Police the Discretion To Allow the Use of Light Bars on Emergency Vehicles

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 1, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT

Clerk

Presented by Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by PL 2019, c. 335, §5, is further amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

(2) Emergency lights used on an ambulance, an emergency medical service vehicle, a fire department vehicle or a hazardous material response vehicle may include one blue light mounted facing toward the rear of the vehicle so that the light is primarily visible to approaching traffic from the rear only. Any other blue light used on an ambulance, an emergency medical service vehicle, a fire department vehicle or a hazardous material response vehicle must be approved by the chief of the local law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction of the vehicle.

11 SUMMARY

 This bill allows ambulances, emergency medical service vehicles, fire department vehicles and hazardous material response vehicles to use blue lights other than the one blue light mounted facing toward the rear of the vehicle presently allowed by law, upon approval of the chief of the local law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction of the vehicle.