

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. H7956)

MAJORITY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1474, L.D. 1988, "An Act To Establish That the Provision of Emergency Medical Services by an Ambulance Service Is an Essential Service and To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §81-A, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 730, §§3 and 16, is amended to read:

It is the purpose of this chapter to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective emergency medical services system to ensure optimum patient care. The Legislature finds that emergency medical services provided by an ambulance service are essential services. The Legislature finds that the provision of medical assistance in an emergency is a matter of vital concern affecting the health, safety and welfare of the public.'

Amend the bill in section 2 by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 21 to 40 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'2. **Commission membership.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 17 members:

A. Seven members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

- (1) Two members of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;
- (2) Two members who are employed or volunteer in the field of emergency medical services, including one member who represents a community of 10,000 residents or more and one member who represents a community of fewer than 10,000 residents;
- (3) One member who represents a statewide association of emergency medical services providers;
- (4) One member who represents a private, for-profit ambulance service; and

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- 1 (5) One member who represents a statewide association of municipalities;
- 2 B. Eight members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:
- 3 (1) Four members of the House of Representatives, including 2 members of the
- 4 party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and 2 members of the
- 5 party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;
- 6 (2) One member who represents a tribal emergency medical service;
- 7 (3) One member who represents a volunteer emergency medical service;
- 8 (4) One member who represents a county government; and
- 9 (5) One member who represents a statewide association of hospitals;
- 10 C. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;
- 11 and
- 12 D. The Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services within the Department of
- 13 Public Safety or the director's designee.'

14 Amend the bill in section 2 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 2, lines 9 to 13 in
15 L.D.) and inserting the following:

16 **'5. Duties; meetings.** The commission shall examine and make recommendations on
17 the structure, support and delivery of emergency medical services in the State. The
18 commission shall maintain communication and coordinate with Maine Emergency Medical
19 Services as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 83, subsection 16-A so
20 that Maine Emergency Medical Services is informed of the work of the commission and
21 the commission is informed of the strategic planning work of Maine Emergency Medical
22 Services. The commission may look at all aspects of emergency medical services,
23 including but not limited to workforce development, training, compensation, retention,
24 costs, reimbursement rates, organization and local and state support. The commission is
25 authorized to hold a maximum of 6 meetings.'

26 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
27 number to read consecutively.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment adds
30 emergency medical services provided by an ambulance service as essential services to the
31 statement of purpose in the Maine Emergency Medical Services Act of 1982. The
32 amendment removes reference in the bill to eligibility for federal funding as the purpose
33 for which emergency medical services provided by an ambulance service are designated as
34 essential services. The amendment adds 4 members to the Blue Ribbon Commission To
35 Study Emergency Medical Services in the State: a member who represents a statewide
36 association of municipalities and a member who represents a statewide association of
37 emergency medical services providers appointed by the President of the Senate and a
38 member who represents a county government and a member who represents a statewide
39 association of hospitals appointed by the Speaker of the House. The amendment substitutes
40 the Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services within the Department of Public Safety
41 or the director's designee for a member from the Department of Public Safety nominated
42 by the Governor at the request of the President of the Senate. The amendment adds to the
43 duties of the commission examining and making recommendations on the structure of

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1 emergency medical services and maintaining communication and coordinating with Maine
2 Emergency Medical Services so that Maine Emergency Medical Services and the
3 commission are informed of the work being done by each other. The amendment adds
4 language authorizing the commission to hold a maximum of 6 meetings.

5 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

6 **(See attached)**



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LD 1988

LR 2140(02)

An Act To Establish That the Provision of Emergency Medical Services by an Ambulance Service Is an Essential Service and To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A. (H-956)*

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$2,250 in fiscal year 2021-22 and \$2,500 in fiscal year 2022-23. The Legislature's budget for the 2022-2023 biennium includes an estimated \$6,108 in fiscal year 2022 and \$10,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$31,260 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Departments of Health and Human Services and Public Safety to take part in the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.