

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1988

H.P. 1474

House of Representatives, February 16, 2022

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

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: CARDONE of Bangor, MARTIN of Greene, NEWELL of the
Passamaquoddy Tribe, PLUECKER of Warren, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senators:
BAILEY of York, DESCHAMBAULT of York, POULIOT of Kennebec.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day
4 period in order to provide sufficient time for the study established in this legislation to be
5 completed; and

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

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

11 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §86-A** is enacted to read:

12 **§86-A. Ambulance services are essential services**

13 For purposes of eligibility for federal funding, emergency medical services provided
14 by an ambulance service are essential services and as essential as services provided by a
15 fire department or law enforcement agency.

16 **Sec. 2. Establishment of Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency**
17 **Medical Services in the State.**

18 **1. Blue ribbon commission established.** The Blue Ribbon Commission To Study
19 Emergency Medical Services in the State, referred to in this section as "the commission,"
20 is established.

21 **2. Commission membership.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission
22 consists of 13 members:

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

24 (1) Two members of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the
25 largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the
26 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

27 (2) Two members who are employed or volunteer in the field of emergency
28 medical services, including one member who represents a community of 10,000
29 residents or more and one member who represents a community of fewer than
30 10,000 residents;

31 (3) One member from the Department of Public Safety nominated by the Governor
32 at the President's request; and

33 (4) One member who represents a private, for-profit ambulance service;

34 B. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

35 (1) Four members of the House of Representatives, including 2 members of the
36 party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and 2 members of the
37 party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

38 (2) One member who represents a tribal emergency medical service; and

39 (3) One member who represents a volunteer emergency medical service; and

40 C. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee.

