

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SAR  
ROS

1

L.D. 1409

2

Date:

3/11/24

(Filing No. H-814)

3

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

4

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5

**STATE OF MAINE**

6

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

7

**131ST LEGISLATURE**

8

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

9

10

11

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 905, L.D. 1409, "An Act to Require Reimbursement When a Municipality Hires First Responders Whose Training Costs Were Incurred by Another Municipality"

12

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

13

**'Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study Sharing the Costs of Training First Responders Among Governmental Entities'**

14

15

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

16

17

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

18

19

**Whereas,** state and local governmental entities struggle to hire and retain first responders to protect and assist Maine residents in times of emergency; and

20

21

22

**Whereas,** during the past 2 sessions of the Legislature, commissions have been established to study, among other matters, ways to improve the emergency services available across the State; and

23

24

25

**Whereas,** the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State recommended, in its January 2024 report, that the Legislature enact legislation to provide for cost sharing of training among emergency medical services entities; and

26

27

28

**Whereas,** the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government has unanimously voted that cost sharing among state and local governmental entities in a fair and efficient manner needs further consideration before passage into law; and

29

30

**Whereas,** this legislation establishes the Task Force to Study Sharing the Costs of Training First Responders Among Governmental Entities; and

31

32

33

**Whereas,** pursuant to the Joint Rules, the report from any legislative study committee established to conduct work after adjournment of a second regular session of the Legislature must be submitted by the first Wednesday in November; and

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

ROS

1           **Whereas**, the joint standing committee unanimously voted that the period between 90  
2 days after adjournment of this session and the first Wednesday of November is inadequate  
3 time for the Task Force to Study Sharing the Costs of Training First Responders Among  
4 Governmental Entities to address this complex matter; and

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

9           **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to Study Sharing  
10 the Costs of Training First Responders Among Governmental Entities, referred to in this  
11 resolve as "the task force," is established. For purposes of this resolve, "first responder"  
12 includes, but is not limited to, an individual providing fire protection services, emergency  
13 medical services and emergency dispatch services.

14           **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule  
15 353, the task force consists of 18 members as follows:

16           1. Two members of the Senate from the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats  
17 in the Legislature, appointed by the President of the Senate;

18           2. Two members of the House of Representatives from the 2 parties holding the largest  
19 number of seats in the Legislature, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

20           3. Six members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

21           A. One member representing the Maine Sheriffs' Association for county-operated  
22 public safety answering points;

23           B. One member representing the Maine Ambulance Association;

24           C. One member representing the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association who provides fire  
25 protection services on a volunteer basis;

26           D. One member representing the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association who provides fire  
27 protection services on a full-time basis;

28           E. One member representing the Maine County Commissioners Association; and

29           F. One member who serves in municipal or county government;

30           4. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

31           A. One member representing the Maine Chiefs of Police Association with experience  
32 managing a dispatch center for law enforcement, fire protection or emergency medical  
33 services;

34           B. One member representing the Maine Municipal Association;

35           C. One member representing the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association who provides both  
36 fire protection services and emergency medical services;

37           D. One member of a state public safety answering point designated by the Department  
38 of Public Safety;

39           E. One member representing the Emergency Medical Services' Board established in  
40 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 88; and

ROS

1 F. One member representing Maine Emergency Medical Services established in the  
2 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 2901;

3 5. The State of Maine Fire Training Director within the Maine Fire Service Institute  
4 or the director's designee; and

5 6. The director of the Emergency Services Communication Bureau within the Public  
6 Utilities Commission or the director's designee.

7 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair  
8 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force.

9 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all  
10 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this  
11 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative  
12 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,  
13 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force. If 30 days or more after  
14 the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the  
15 chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the task  
16 force to meet and conduct its business.

17 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That, to determine an equitable method to provide  
18 reimbursement to a governmental entity for training and credentialing costs incurred by the  
19 governmental entity for a first responder who ends service with the governmental entity  
20 soon after receiving the training and credentialing, the task force shall:

21 1. Determine the training and credentialing required for first responders working in  
22 the State;

23 2. Determine additional training or credentialing desired for first responders working  
24 in the State;

25 3. Determine whether factors such as level of salary, travel costs, tuition costs,  
26 overtime costs, equipment costs and health screening costs should be included in the  
27 baseline calculation of costs;

28 4. Determine whether costs differ on a regional basis and whether any such differences  
29 should be factored into the calculation;

30 5. Determine if other resources are available or should be made available to reduce the  
31 burden of training and credentialing costs on a governmental entity;

32 6. Review the possible methods for sharing the training and credentialing costs of first  
33 responders among governmental entities;

34 7. Submit recommendations for an equitable approach to creating a scaled  
35 reimbursement schedule for the cost of training and credentialing an employee between  
36 governmental entities when an employee is subsequently hired by another governmental  
37 entity within a certain period of time; and

38 8. Undertake any other activity determined necessary by a majority of the task force.

39 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide  
40 necessary staffing services to the task force, except that Legislative Council staff support  
41 is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.





# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1409

LR 2096(02)

**An Act to Require Reimbursement When a Municipality Hires First Responders Whose Training Costs Were Incurred by Another Municipality**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment**

**Committee: State and Local Government**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

*A (H-814)*

---

## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Cost/Study

#### Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$1,400 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$1,650 in fiscal year 2024-25. The Legislature's budget for the 2024-2025 biennium includes \$14,500 in each of fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$38,909 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 Department of Public Safety or the Public Utilities Commission associated with serving on the task force are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.