

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
September 29, 2021

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 5, 2022 to May 9, 2022

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 8, 2022

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2022

CHAPTER 731
S.P. 283 - L.D. 731

**An Act To Establish a Program
To Assist Regional Firefighter
Training Programs, To Provide
Tax Credits to Businesses That
Employ Volunteer Firefighters
and Emergency Medical
Services Persons and To
Provide Benefits to Volunteer
Firefighters and Emergency
Medical Services Persons**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3371, sub-§8, ¶G, as amended by PL 2017, c. 444, §1, is further amended to read:

G. Submit proposed legislation to the Legislature to implement any recommendations of the commission; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §3371, sub-§8, ¶H, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 444, §2, is amended to read:

H. Make awards from the Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund pursuant to Title 20-A, section 9004 and direct the Maine Fire Service Institute within the Maine Community College System to make payments to municipalities from the fund; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §3371, sub-§8, ¶I is enacted to read:

I. Make awards from the Regional Fire Service Training Fund pursuant to Title 20-A, section 9005 and direct the Maine Fire Service Institute within the Maine Community College System to make payments to municipalities from the fund.

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §9005 is enacted to read:
§9005. Regional Fire Service Training Fund

1. Fund established. The Regional Fire Service Training Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established under the Maine Fire Service Institute within the Maine Community College System as a nonlapsing fund to provide funds to municipalities for regional fire service training in the State.

2. Grant program. The Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, referred to in this section as "the commission" and established pursuant to Title 5, section 12004-J, subsection 12, shall establish criteria to award grants to municipalities from the fund for the purpose of funding regional fire service training for municipal firefighters and public safety employees. The

commission may adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

3. Procedure. Municipalities may apply to the commission for grants. The commission shall evaluate each application pursuant to the criteria developed in subsection 2 and, to the extent funds are available, shall award grants from the fund to support regional fire service training programs.

4. Payment of grants. Upon the award of a grant by the commission, the commission shall direct the Maine Fire Service Institute within the Maine Community College System to make the payment of the grant award to the municipality from the fund.

Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §5217-F is enacted to read:

§5217-F. Employer support for volunteer firefighters and volunteer municipal emergency medical services persons

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, an employer who employs an individual who is a volunteer firefighter, as defined in Title 30-A, section 3151, subsection 4, or a volunteer municipal emergency medical services person and who permits that employee to respond to fire calls or emergency medical services calls, as appropriate, during hours when the employee is scheduled to work without a reduction in pay is eligible for a credit against the tax imposed by this Part equal to the compensation that is paid to the employee at the employee's regular rate of pay during the time when the employee is away from work due to firefighting or emergency response responsibilities. For the purposes of this subsection, "volunteer municipal emergency medical services person" means an emergency medical services person as defined in Title 32, section 83, subsection 12 who responds to emergency medical services calls from a municipality and who receives no compensation from the municipality other than injury and death benefits.

Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

Revenue Services, Bureau of 0002

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for computer programming.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$33,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$33,000

See title page for effective date.