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**Testimony of J. Sam Hurley, MPH, EMPS, NRP**

Director, Maine Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (Maine EMS)

Department of Public Safety

**In Support of LD 1859**

*“An Act to Build More Sustainable Ambulance Services in Communities”*

Presented by Senator Curry of Waldo

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC  
SAFETY

Public Hearing: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety:

My name is Sam Hurley and I am the Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services, Maine EMS, within the Department of Public Safety. I am submitting this written testimony on behalf of Maine Department of Public Safety and Maine EMS in support of Senator Curry’s proposed amendment to LD 1859, *“An Act to Build More Sustainable Ambulance Services in Communities.”*

Maine EMS has testified multiple times in front of this committee regarding the importance of communities conducting a needs assessment prior to creating an emergency medical services agency. We believe that this bill is a great first step in empowering communities to engage in informed community self-determination.

The only comment I would offer is to modify the “Reports” section to empower the Board to create rules around reporting rather than defining it in statute. For example, the Board may want

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more frequent reporting than annually and at the conclusion of the process, they may no longer need to receive reports. It could read, “**Reports.** The Board shall adopt reporting requirements for all grant recipients as a condition of funding to monitor the status of the community self-determination process undertaken by the community.”

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime if there is any additional information, I can offer the Committee.

Thank you for your time and commitment to supporting the EMS system.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Sam Hurley', written in a cursive style.

J. Sam Hurley, MPH, EMPS, NRP  
Director, Maine EMS