

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1832

H.P. 1164

House of Representatives, April 27, 2023

An Act to Require Reimbursement of Fees for Treatment Rendered by Public and Private Ambulance Services

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative CYRWAY of Albion. Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, DILL of Old Town, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MORRIS of Turner, NUTTING of Oakland, PERRY of Calais, PRINGLE of Windham, Senator: BRAKEY of Androscoggin.

- Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and Whereas, ambulance services are losing business; and
- 4 **Whereas,** a reduction in ambulance services poses an immediate threat to the health 5 and safety of residents of the State; 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:
 - Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §98 is enacted to read:
- 12 §98. Ambulance service reimbursement

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Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an ambulance service must be
 reimbursed for the cost of treating a person, regardless of whether the ambulance service
 transports the person to a hospital. An ambulance service may charge the same amount as
 a hospital charges to treat a person in the emergency department without admitting the
 person.

- 18 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
 19 takes effect when approved.
- 20 SUMMARY
- This bill requires an ambulance service to be reimbursed for the cost of treating a person, regardless of whether the ambulance service transports the person to a hospital.