



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 2016

H.P. 1498

House of Representatives, March 9, 2022

**An Act To Implement the Crisis Response Services
Recommendations Identified Pursuant to Resolve 2021, Chapter 29**

Reported by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham for the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology pursuant to Resolve 2021, chapter 29, section 1.

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§6-A**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 236, §2, is
3 amended to read:

4 **6-A. Microgrids.** Beginning February 1, 2025, any activities undertaken by the
5 commission related to new microgrids as defined in section 3351, subsection 1, paragraph
6 B, including whether any new microgrids have been approved; ~~and~~

7 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§6-B** is enacted to read:

8 **6-B. Crisis response services.** Any developments in the delivery of crisis response
9 services established in connection with E-9-1-1 or other emergency response services. As
10 used in this subsection, "crisis response services" means services offered to individuals
11 experiencing mental health emergencies, emergencies relating to substance use disorder or
12 other emergencies for which fire, emergency medical or police services are determined not
13 to be required; and

14 **Sec. 3. Public Utilities Commission; proposed legislation.** The Public Utilities
15 Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau, in consultation with the
16 Department of Public Safety, shall develop proposed legislation to implement the protocol
17 and procedure recommendations for the delivery of crisis response services under the
18 State's E-9-1-1 system as identified in the Emergency Services Communication Bureau
19 report issued pursuant to Resolve 2021, chapter 29. The bureau shall provide the proposed
20 legislation to persons and entities affected by the proposal and allow at least 30 days for
21 the submission of comments. On or before November 2, 2022, the commission shall submit
22 the proposed legislation together with all comments received by the bureau to the joint
23 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters.
24 The committee may report out related legislation to the 131st Legislature in 2023.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to include developments in the
27 delivery of crisis response services in the commission's annual report to the Legislature.
28 The bill defines "crisis response services" as services offered to individuals experiencing
29 mental health emergencies, emergencies relating to substance use disorder or other
30 emergencies for which fire, emergency medical or police services are determined not to be
31 required.

32 The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication
33 Bureau, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, to develop proposed
34 legislation to implement the bureau's protocol and procedure recommendations for the
35 delivery of crisis response services. The bureau must allow affected persons and entities to
36 provide comments on the proposal. The proposed legislation and comments must be
37 submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
38 utilities and energy matters, and the committee may report out legislation in connection
39 with the proposal to the 131st Legislature in 2023.