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Legislative Document

No. 1008

H.P. 746

House of Representatives, March 10, 2021

**An Act To Require Joint Use Entities To Establish Permanent
Liaisons with All County Emergency Management Agencies**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and
Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, HEPLER of Woolwich, McCREIGHT of
Harpwell, PAULHUS of Bath.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §783, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 146, §14, is further
3 amended to read:

4 Each municipal, county and regional emergency management agency, as part of the
5 development of a disaster emergency plan for the area subject to its jurisdiction, shall
6 consult as it considers appropriate with institutions, organizations and businesses within its
7 jurisdiction to ensure that the disaster plans developed by the municipality or agency and
8 those institutions, organizations and businesses are compatible. Institutions, organizations
9 and businesses with which the municipality or agency may consult include, but are not
10 limited to, hospitals, schools, health care facilities, group homes, joint use entities as
11 defined in Title 35-A, section 711, subsection 7, paragraph B and day care centers.

12 **Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §783-A** is enacted to read:

13 **§783-A. Joint use entity liaisons**

14 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
15 following terms have the following meanings.

16 A. "Facilities" has the same meaning as in Title 35-A, section 2502, subsection 3.

17 B. "Joint use entity" has the same meaning as in Title 35-A, section 711, subsection 7,
18 paragraph B.

19 **2. Joint use entity; liaison designation.** A joint use entity shall designate, in each
20 county where the joint use entity has facilities, a permanent liaison with the applicable
21 county emergency management agency that will be responsible for assisting the agency
22 with the coordination of actions during a disaster or civil emergency and shall communicate
23 to the agency the contact information for the liaison.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill requires a joint use entity, which includes a public utility, voice service
26 provider, dark fiber provider, wholesale or retail competitive local exchange carrier, cable
27 television system, unlit fiber provider, telecommunications service provider or information
28 service provider, to designate a permanent liaison with each county emergency
29 management agency in the State in counties in which the joint use entity has facilities in
30 order to assist in the coordination of efforts during a disaster or civil emergency.