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**JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF APRIL 9, 2017
AS MAINE PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK**

WHEREAS, the United States Congress recognizes the 2nd week of April as "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week"; and

WHEREAS, over 500,000 dedicated men and women are engaged in the operation of emergency response systems for federal, state, county and local governmental entities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, these unseen first responders are responsible for responding to the telephone calls of the general public for police, fire and emergency medical assistance and for dispatching assistance to help save the lives and property of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Americans place their trust in these individuals, not just this week, but every day of the year, and rely on their knowledge and professionalism as they make critical decisions, obtain information and quickly dispatch needed aid; and

WHEREAS, the calls for help include not only police, fire and emergency medical service calls but those governmental communications related to natural disasters, forestry and conservation operations, highway safety and maintenance activities and all other operations that modern governmental agencies must conduct; and

WHEREAS, Maine's public safety telecommunicators daily serve the public in countless ways without due recognition by the beneficiaries of their services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the week of April 9, 2017 as Maine Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.