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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 652, L.D. 1005, “An Act to Allow Municipal Fire Departments with Trained Personnel to Conduct Sprinkler Plan Reviews”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, to Study Authorization for Municipal Fire Departments with Trained Personnel to Conduct Fire Sprinkler System Plan Reviews'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. Office of State Fire Marshal to convene working group. Resolved:** That the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal, referred to in this resolve as "the office," shall convene a working group, referred to in this resolve as "the working group," to study allowing the office to authorize municipal fire departments with trained personnel to conduct fire sprinkler system plan reviews.

**Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the working group must consist of a broad representation of stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the following members:

- 1. The State Fire Marshal, or the fire marshal's designee;
- 2. The chair of the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-J, subsection 12, or the chair's designee;
- 3. A representative from a statewide association of fire chiefs;
- 4. A representative from a statewide association of municipalities; and
- 5. A representative from a municipal fire department seeking to conduct the fire department's own fire sprinkler system plan reviews.

**Sec. 3. Duties of working group. Resolved:** That the working group shall examine:

- 1. The status of fire sprinkler system plan reviews in the State, including, but not limited to, data regarding the number of fire sprinkler system permits issued annually, the

1 amount of time taken to issue the permits and the number of preliminary fire sprinkler  
2 system permits issued;

3 2. The best procedures to allow the office to grant authority to a municipal fire  
4 department to conduct the municipality's fire sprinkler system plan reviews; and

5 3. Strategies to address the office's staffing needs.

6 **Sec. 4. Report. Resolved:** That, by December 3, 2025, the office shall submit a  
7 report that includes the findings and recommendations of the working group, including  
8 suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public  
9 Safety and the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development. The  
10 Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety may submit legislation  
11 based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.'

12 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
13 number to read consecutively.

#### 14 SUMMARY

15 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with  
16 a resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire  
17 Marshal to convene a working group of stakeholders to study allowing the office to  
18 authorize municipal fire departments with trained personnel to conduct fire sprinkler  
19 system plan reviews. The office is required to submit a report by December 3, 2025 to the  
20 Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Standing  
21 Committee on Housing and Economic Development. The Joint Standing Committee on  
22 Criminal Justice and Public Safety may submit legislation based on the report to the Second  
23 Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

#### 24 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

25 (See attached)