

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

—
H.P. 1504 - L.D. 2024

An Act To Allow County and Regional Communications Centers To Request Polygraph Examinations for Employees and Applicants for Employment

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, under current law, employees of or applicants for employment with law enforcement agencies, including as emergency services dispatchers for those agencies, are subject to polygraph examinations; and

Whereas, other public safety dispatchers, such as for fire or emergency medical services, are not subject to polygraph examinations, despite having access to confidential records such as investigative and criminal intelligence information; and

Whereas, to ensure that such information is not misused, it is necessary to correct this disparity as soon as possible; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §7364, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 316, §3 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

3. Exception. This section does not apply to employees of or applicants for employment with law enforcement agencies or county and regional communications centers. As used in this subsection, "county and regional communications centers" means publicly owned and publicly operated entities that dispatch emergency services, but does not include dispatch centers that dispatch only fire services or emergency medical services and does not include an entity operated by or under the control of a law enforcement agency.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.