

STATE OF MAINE

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

—
S.P. 374 - L.D. 841

Resolve, to Study the Delivery of Emergency Medical Services to and Ferry Service Effects on Unbridged Island Communities in the State

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

Whereas, emergency medical services are essential services and failing to provide these essential services adversely affects public health; and

Whereas, addressing the delivery of emergency medical services to unbridged island communities will require input and collaboration from several stakeholders; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to address these issues; 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

Sec. 1. Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services to convene working group. Resolved: That the Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall convene a working group to study the delivery of emergency medical services to and ferry service implications on unbridged island communities in the State. The study must include an evaluation of the long-term sustainability of emergency medical services to unbridged islands, legal and regulatory requirements related to such services and a cost comparison to emergency medical services needs and costs statewide.

Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the working group under section 1 consists of the following members:

1. The Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services within the Department of Public Safety, or the director's designee;
2. A representative of a municipal government of an unbridged island community that is served by the Department of Transportation, Maine State Ferry Service;

3. A representative of a municipal government of an unbridged island community that is not served by the Department of Transportation, Maine State Ferry Service;

4. A representative who provides emergency medical services on an unbridged island community served by the Department of Transportation, Maine State Ferry Service;

5. A representative of the Department of Transportation, Maine State Ferry Service;

6. A representative of an organization with experience in providing air ambulance critical care transport services in the State;

7. A representative of a statewide association representing ambulance services; and

8. A representative of a municipal fire department that provides marine emergency medical services that are not primarily facilitated through a ferry service to an unbridged island community.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That, by January 1, 2026, the Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall submit a report that includes the findings and recommendations of the working group under section 1, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. Both committees may submit legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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