Dan Brooks
Maine Fire Protection Service Commission
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Maine Fire Protection Services Commission
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CHIEF DANIEL S. BROOKS CHAIR

February 24, 2023

Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, Senator Beebe-Center and Representative Salisbury, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, I Chief Dan Brooks of the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission would like to provide support for the funding of regional fire training programs that was initially provided through LD731 and is now included in the Governor's proposed budget (A-138).

This funding was added to the Maine Fire Service Institute's current funding model in order to address training gaps in basic firefighter training statewide. It established a grant program to distribute supplies and instructors to seven programs that would otherwise have been unfunded and would not have occurred.

This funding and the ultimate grant program it provided will train in excess of 150 firefighters this year alone. However, even with this additional funding we are unable to provide all the training needed to the members of the fire service here in the State of Maine.

The Maine Fire Protection Services Commission urges you to support this funding in our next budget cycle so we can continue to provide necessary emergency services training to our first-responders.

Sincerely; Chief Daniel Brooks Chair MFPSC

Daniel S Brooks