



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES
BURTON M. CROSS BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR
78 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0078

SERVING THE PUBLIC AND DELIVERING ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO STATE GOVERNMENT

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

KIRSTEN LC FIGUEROA
COMMISSIONER

*Testimony of Anya Trundy, Chief of Legislative and Strategic Operations
Department of Administrative and Financial Services
testifying in Opposition*

LD 1889, An Act to Provide Authorization to Aroostook County to Use the Statewide Radio Network System

Presented by Senate President Jackson
To the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Senator Lawrence, Representative Zeigler, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, I am Anya Trundy, Chief of Legislative and Strategic Operations for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. I am providing testimony Against LD 1889, but also to inform the Committee, Aroostook County and other interested counties of the forthcoming process by which they may be able to co-locate their radio equipment on Maine State Communication Network (MSCommNet) radio frequency (RF) towers—provided that doing so would not create harmful interference and where there is additional tower load capacity.

As written, this bill would give Aroostook County unique access to MSCommNet's radio frequency towers that is not being extended to other counties. Make no mistake, we are not suggesting that the bill be broadened to incorporate the other 15 counties—the system does not have available bandwidth and tower load capacity to match the interest anticipated across all counties.

When MSCommNet was accepted in 2014, a moratorium on co-location was established. This was done to allow the State to focus on stabilizing the system. In response to more recent co-locating interest, the Office of Information Technology Radio Operations group has developed a draft process to enable government organizations to request access to radio frequency sites, pending review, engineering analysis, and approval.

MSCommNet consists of 40 radio frequency sites; 33 of these sites have a hard-wired shore power source and seven are solar powered. Of the 33 hard-wired, the State has jurisdiction over 23, while the other 10 belong to the federal Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection. Of the seven solar powered, three are under the State, while the other four are DHS/CBP's. The State does not have the authority to authorize co-location on the federal towers and the solar powered sites were not designed with surplus capacity. There are nine state owned towers located in Aroostook County, 5 that may have the potential for co-locations of the County's equipment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I am happy to answer any questions.