



Maine County Commissioners Association

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LD 2123, An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons

February 8, 2024

Chair Bailey, Chair Perry, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, my name is Stephen Gorden and in addition to serving as a member of the board of commissioners for Cumberland County, I am writing today in my role as chair of the legislative policy committee of the Maine County Commissioners Association. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony to the Committee in support of LD 2123.

About MCCA. Briefly, the Maine County Commissioners Association was established in 1890 to assist Maine's county government in providing vital services to Maine citizens in a responsive, efficient, and credible manner. The Association is based in Augusta, represents all 16 of Maine's counties, and is governed by a board with representation from each participating county.

What does LD 2123 do? LD 2123 amends the law governing the minimum requirements for licensing and relicensing emergency medical persons by removing the requirement that a person must have successfully completed the practical evaluation of emergency medical treatment skills approved by the Emergency Medical Services' Board. This proposal replaces that requirement with a requirement that a person must have successfully completed an assessment of emergency medical treatment skills approved by the Emergency Medical Services' Board.

Discussion. The Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State was established by Public Law 2021, chapter 749 to examine and make recommendations on the structure, support, and delivery of emergency medical services in the State, including costs and funding, workforce development and sustainability, Maine EMS structure, and regionalization. The Commission held several meetings over the course of 2022, and was composed of seventeen members, including a representative from county government.

LD 2123 codifies one of the several recommendations that the Commission outlined in its December 2022 Report. Specifically, LD 2123 codifies recommendation B in the Commission's December 2022 Report related to workforce development, education, and training. Our Association broadly supports the recommendations contained in the Commission's Report, including the recommendation considered in LD 2123. Accordingly, we write in support of this proposal.

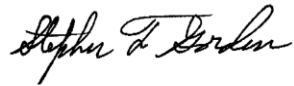
Conclusion. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill, and if you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

Comments of MCCA re LD 2123

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephen T. Gorden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Gorden

Chair, Legislative Policy Committee

cc: Commissioner Richard Dutremble, President, MCCA
James I. Cohen, Verrill Dana, LLP, MCCA Legislative Counsel