



Hancock County Emergency Management Agency

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April 01, 2025

Senator Marianne Moore

28 Saint Croix Drive

Calais, Maine 04619

RE: LR #866 An Act to Waive Basic Law Enforcement Training Requirements for Full-time Law Enforcement Officers Who Have Successfully Completed Equivalent Courses in Other Jurisdictions

Dear Senator Moore,

I was recently solicited by my colleague, Eastport's Chief of Police, Marc Podschlne, to write a Letter of Support to further favorable consideration of your proposed legislation, LR #866. Regrettably I've other commitments that preclude my appearing in-person on April 7th, so I appreciate this opportunity to lend my support to this critical legislation.

Thank you for your willingness, and that of your legislative colleagues, to recognize this needed change to permit qualified law enforcement officers from other jurisdictions to attain certification here in Maine. As you are well aware, both our urban and rural communities Downeast are finding it increasingly challenging to maintain sufficient operational staffing levels due a variety of factors, with the ensuing challenges posing consequence for both our underserved communities and taxpayers everywhere. Recent cutbacks in call-sharing arrangements amongst agencies and similar actions have only exacerbated these challenges for our regional and local law enforcement agencies, both large and small. Your proposed legislation, wholly cost-neutral, would greatly lessen these circumstances and provide our already stressed agencies much needed assistance in successfully recruiting and onboarding the highly qualified and trained personnel that would consider residency and employment should their professional law credentials be readily transferable and accepted by Maine.

If I may provide any additional advocacy to advance LR #866, please advise; it would be my pleasure to do so. Thank you again for your sponsorship and support of this increasingly necessary legislation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'A. Sankey'.

Andrew Sankey