

**To:** Honorable Members of the Committee

**From:** Nicholas Huber, Jefferson, Maine

**Date:** February 11<sup>th</sup> 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my **strong support for LD 2119**, *An Act to Expand Reimbursement for Treatment in Place, Community Paramedicine and Alternate Destination Transport*.

Emergency medical services are a cornerstone of public health and safety in Maine. Our state's EMS professionals respond day in and day out to urgent calls that range from life-threatening trauma to chronic health crises. Yet, under current law, reimbursement for EMS services is limited, particularly when patients are treated on scene or transported to alternative care destinations rather than a hospital emergency department.

**LD 2119 addresses a critical gap in our healthcare delivery system by ensuring fair reimbursement for:**

- **Treatment provided at the scene of an emergency, regardless of whether the patient is transported to a hospital**, which acknowledges the real, lifesaving care EMS personnel deliver in the field;
- **Community paramedicine services**, which allow specially trained EMS providers to deliver ongoing, preventive care in patients' homes or communities — a cost-effective strategy that can help keep people healthier and reduce unnecessary 911 calls;
- **Alternate destination transport**, which gives EMS the flexibility to take patients to the most appropriate care setting — such as urgent care centers, mental health crisis units, or other facilities better suited to meet the specific needs of the patient — instead of defaulting to hospital emergency departments. This leads to **better patient outcomes and lower costs** for our healthcare system.

**Supporting LD 2119 is a step in the right direction**, that modernizes how we support EMS and emergency care in Maine. It reflects a growing national recognition that quality care doesn't always — and perhaps *shouldn't* always — mean a trip to the emergency room. By ensuring EMS services are reimbursed for their full range of services, this bill helps:

- Strengthen Maine's EMS workforce by recognizing and valuing the full scope of their work;
- Improve access to care for rural and underserved populations;
- Reduce strain on overburdened hospital emergency departments;
- Encourage innovative, community-focused approaches to health care that meet patients where they are.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **vote “Ought to Pass” on LD 2119.**

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Huber  
Jefferson, Maine

Nicholas Huber  
Jefferson Maine, Waterville Fire  
LD 2119

To: Honorable Members of the Committee  
From: Nicholas Huber, Jefferson, Maine  
Date: February 11th 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 2119, An Act to Expand Reimbursement for Treatment in Place, Community Paramedicine and Alternate Destination Transport. Emergency medical services are a cornerstone of public health and safety in Maine. Our state's EMS professionals respond day in and day out to urgent calls that range from life-threatening trauma to chronic health crises. Yet, under current law, reimbursement for EMS services is limited, particularly when patients are treated on scene or transported to alternative care destinations rather than a hospital emergency department.

LD 2119 addresses a critical gap in our healthcare delivery system by ensuring fair reimbursement for:

- Treatment provided at the scene of an emergency, regardless of whether the patient is transported to a hospital, which acknowledges the real, lifesaving care EMS personnel deliver in the field;
- Community paramedicine services, which allow specially trained EMS providers to deliver ongoing, preventive care in patients' homes or communities — a cost-effective strategy that can help keep people healthier and reduce unnecessary 911 calls;
- Alternate destination transport, which gives EMS the flexibility to take patients to the most appropriate care setting — such as urgent care centers, mental health crisis units, or other facilities better suited to meet the specific needs of the patient — instead of defaulting to hospital emergency departments. This leads to better patient outcomes and lower costs for our healthcare system.

Supporting LD 2119 is a step in the right direction, that modernizes how we support EMS and emergency care in Maine. It reflects a growing national recognition that quality care doesn't always — and perhaps shouldn't always — mean a trip to the emergency room. By ensuring EMS services are reimbursed for their full range of services, this bill helps:

- Strengthen Maine's EMS workforce by recognizing and valuing the full scope of their work;
- Improve access to care for rural and underserved populations;
- Reduce strain on overburdened hospital emergency departments;
- Encourage innovative, community-focused approaches to health care that meet patients where they are.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD

2119.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Huber  
Jefferson, Maine