



MAINE AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

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EMS SUSTAINED FUNDING LEGISLATION

The following Bills address the funding recommendations in the report from the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State. This Report found that there is a minimum \$70 million needed to fully fund EMS services in Maine.

These Bills would provide both short term emergency funds for EMS providers (LD 526) and long term sustained funding (LD 1602, 1751, 1515). The long term funding bills would set the minimum rates for EMS services paid by health insurance carriers the same as the Mainecare reimbursement rates for EMS providers. **The total annual EMS system revenue from these bills is estimated at ~\$35 million.** The State would fund the remaining need with General Fund appropriations.

HEALTH INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT

LD 1602 An Act To Implement The Recommendations Of The Stakeholder Group Convened By The Emergency Medical Services' Board On Financial Health Of Ambulance Services

Referred to HCIFS Committee

Fiscal Note: none

1. Health insurance carriers must pay at least 200% of Medicare rate for covered emergency services.
Annual Revenue estimate: \$0 (Average Commercial Reimbursement is currently about 200% of Medicare for all providers and carriers)
2. Health insurance carriers must reimburse ambulance service providers for non-transporting services at the same reimbursement rates for covered emergency services.
Annual EMS system revenue estimate: \$3.5 million
3. Health insurance carriers must reimburse ambulance services providers for covered services rendered through community paramedicine in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 84, subsection 4.
Annual revenue estimate: undetermined

MAINECARE REIMBURSEMENT

LD 1751 An Act To Maximize Federal Funding In Support Of Emergency Medical Services

Referred to HHS Committee

Fiscal Note: \$11.8 million

EMS Assessment: \$1.4 million

Net Fiscal Impact: \$10.4 million

Annual EMS system Revenue Estimate: \$31 million

This bill establishes an ambulance service assessment fee on ambulance service providers in order to maximize federal funding for reimbursement to ambulance service providers under the MaineCare program. It also increases the reimbursement rates under the MaineCare program for ambulance services, neonatal transport, no-transport calls and community paramedicine.

STATE FUNDING

LD 1515 An Act to Fund Delivery of Emergency Medical Services

Referred to CJPS Committee

Fiscal Note: \$70 million minus Mainecare and Insurance increases ~\$35 million

This bill provides General Fund appropriations to the Department of Public Safety to support existing transportation costs of emergency medical services. These appropriations must be reduced to the maximum extent possible through the use of public and private Medicaid match programs.

SHORT TERM EMERGENCY FUNDING

LD 526 An Act to Provide Funding to Emergency Medical Services Organizations

Referred to CJPS Committee

Fiscal note: \$25 million in FY 24

This bill provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$25,000,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to the Department of Public Safety targeting emergency medical services organizations at immediate risk of failing and leaving their service areas without access to adequate emergency medical services.