

Brad Farrin Senator, District 3

132nd MAINE SENATE

3 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Presenting L.D. 238, "An Act to Protect Emergency Medical Services Persons' Right to Work in Multiple Health Care Settings"

Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee. My name is Senator Brad Farrin I am here today to present L.D. 238, "An Act to Protect Emergency Medical Services Persons' Right to Work in Multiple Health Care Settings" and to ask for your support.

The current law restricts licensed EMS personnel from providing services in a hospital or healthcare facility unless they are specifically employed by that facility. This creates barriers that limit the ability of qualified professionals to support the broader healthcare system, particularly in times of need.

By broadening the scope of the law to include licensed EMS professionals who are acting as volunteers or contracted agents, the bill allows greater flexibility and increases the ability of hospitals and healthcare facilities to efficiently manage medical care, especially during high-demand situations or emergencies. It also promotes a more collaborative approach within the healthcare workforce, recognizing the valuable contributions that EMS providers can make outside of traditional emergency response settings.

This bill will provide hospitals and other facilities with increased access to qualified professionals and help address shortages of personnel, particularly in rural areas which are common throughout Maine. I urge you to support this legislation, which will improve healthcare delivery, enhance flexibility, and ensure that all licensed EMS personnel have the opportunity to contribute fully to the care of patients, regardless of their specific employment status with the healthcare facility.

Thank you for your time and consideration.