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**In Support of L.D. 176, “An Act to Establish a Regional Ambulance Service in
Southern Penobscot County”**

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Monday, February 10, 2025

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. My name is Senator Brad Farrin and I am writing on behalf of myself and Senator Stacey Guerin in support of L.D. 176, “An Act to Establish a Regional Ambulance Service in Southern Penobscot County”

The the need for reliable, accessible, and well-coordinated EMS is vital. Our region, encompassing various rural areas and towns, often faces unique challenges when it comes to delivering emergency care. Response times, resource limitations, and staffing shortages can all impact the ability to save lives. By implementing this ambulance service, this bill will provide the necessary changes needed to address these challenges, ensuring that emergencies are addressed quickly as possible when every second matters.

This new authority will streamline communication and coordination among EMS providers, allow for more efficient use of resources, and ultimately improve the quality of care delivered to residents. It will also provide local responders with the support they need to continue serving their communities without facing the constant strain of limited funding and volunteer shortages.

I believe that the establishment of this Regional Ambulance Service is a necessary step toward ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of all residents in our region. I urge you to support this bill and help strengthen our EMS system.

Thank you for your time and consideration.