

*132nd Legislature  
Senate of  
Maine  
Senate District 6*

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**Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on LD 507,  
An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund LifeFlight of Maine  
April 15, 2025**

Good afternoon, Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. My name is Marianne Moore, and I proudly represent Senate District 6, which includes all of Washington County as well as 16 Communities in Eastern Hancock County.

I'm here today in strong support of LD507 and LifeFlight of Maine. For those of us in Washington County and across rural Maine, LifeFlight is a critical lifeline, supporting our hospitals and EMS with lifesaving technology and expertise.

Maintaining advanced medical services in rural hospitals is a growing challenge. LifeFlight improves outcomes for hundreds of patients each year—those experiencing cardiac events, strokes, trauma, sepsis, and other serious conditions. One emerging concern is the loss of obstetric services in small hospitals, like in Calais. In emergencies involving high-risk pregnancies or premature births, LifeFlight provides the vital transport and specialized care teams these mothers and babies need.

LD 507 will provide essential funding for helipad upgrades, improved weather forecasting for pilots, better communication systems, and expanded access to LifeFlight's fixed-wing aircraft—especially important when helicopters can't fly due to weather. During the pandemic, LifeFlight transported patients as far as Connecticut and New York when regional hospitals were full. In Washington County, where weather can be severe, having both air and ground transport options is crucial.

Despite economic challenges, we must invest in infrastructure that ensures access to emergency care. LifeFlight has already partnered with the FAA and MDOT on upgrades to Eastport and Machias airports, including better navigation systems. LD 507 builds on this progress and ensures LifeFlight can continue to respond when we need them most. Please vote "ought to pass" on this important legislation.