

## **An Act to Establish a One-year Probationary Period for Public Safety Dispatchers**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

**Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §600-C** is enacted to read:

### **§600-C. Probationary period for public safety dispatchers**

**1. Probationary period.** The probationary period for a public safety dispatcher may not be less than 6 months or more than 12 months.

a. An employer must adopt a written policy regarding the length of probationary period for public safety dispatchers. That policy must be disclosed to a public safety dispatcher at their time of hire and may not be changed for that employee after hire.

**2. Public safety dispatcher.** For the purposes of this section, "public safety dispatcher" means a person whose primary employment duties consist of any combination of:

A. Acting as an emergency medical dispatcher as defined in Title 32, section 85-A, subsection 1, paragraph D;

B. Answering, directing or dispatching the response to public safety requests for service at a public safety answering point as defined in Title 25, section 2921, subsection 7;

C. Answering, directing or dispatching the response of emergency services for municipal fire protection pursuant to Title 30-A, chapter 153; or

D. Answering, directing or dispatching the response of law enforcement officers as defined in Title 25, section 2801-A, subsection 5.