

Tommie McKenzie
Sweden Volunteer Fire Department

Greetings to the Committee Members. My name is Tommie C. McKenzie and I live in Lovell. I write today to ask for your support of LD 1316 An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine Length of Service Award Program.

I have been a firefighter for the past 46 years and my career has been both fulltime and volunteer. This program will not provide any benefit to me personally, however, it would provide a much needed incentive for our future fire service members. Maine is mostly a volunteer state of fire service members and these numbers are falling and effecting our ability to provide service to our communities. Without increase incentives to attract young members to the fire service we will soon fail to protect our citizens.

This program is now, more than ever, critical to our communities and state and the support is long over due to our service providers.

I thank you for your consideration and support for this program.