



Town of Enfield

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RE: [LD 588](#)

An Act to Promote Public Safety and Retain Essential First Responders by Funding the Maine Length of Service Award Program
Sen. Chip Curry of Waldo

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:

The Howland Maine Fire/EMS Department is a municipal first responder service within central Penobscot County and is the contracted provider for essential lifesaving protections to the Town of Enfield, Maine. Howland is championing a new endeavor designed to ultimately provide a more effective, affordable and sustainable Fire/EMS model for not only its current partner and client base, but also for a larger area of rural Maine. This visionary initiative to collaborate on a regional level is driven by many factors, not the least of which is limited access to well-trained first responders. Many of the municipalities involved in the Howland model have previously sponsored independent Fire/EMS Departments, but each of these efforts have failed due to limited employee and/or volunteer resources.

The Town of Enfield's elected officials hereby express their support of legislature that is expected to increase retention of first responders in Maine. We must work together to solve the current fire/EMS crisis in Maine to create acceptable levels of service and reliable responses, particularly in rural Maine.

Sincerely,

Charles Frazier

Charles Frazier
Town Manager
Enfield, Maine