

March 18, 2023

Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

EMS Bills

[LD 326](#)

An Act to Improve Recruitment and Retention of First Responders

Sen. Michael Tipping of Penobscot

[LD 526](#)

An Act to Provide Funding to Emergency Medical Services Organizations

Speaker. Rachel Talbot Ross of Portland

[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,

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 Lowell, 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. As an elected official for the Town of Lowell, Maine., I want to express my strongest support for this visionary effort.

Being an active member of a recently established coalition supporting this proposal, we are collaboratively confronting the challenge of how to sustain these critical services to rural communities with a new approach. The basic premise is to form a fire district covering several communities, which we believe will not only improve the level and quality of service, but will ultimately achieve significant economies of scale through the coordinated sharing of apparatus, employees and existing facilities. We further believe that by working together we will be able to eventually reduce operating expenses and increase revenues for the benefit of all served through the district model. A final significant benefit we foresee is the creation of new job opportunities within the region.

I support this innovative approach to try and solve the current fire/EMS crisis in Maine by working together with neighboring communities and forming partnerships. I now ask for your support by giving serious consideration to Howland's application for the financial support needed to move this effort forward.

Sincerely,

Brian Moura

1st Selectboard Member

Town of Lowell, Maine.

Brian Moura
Lowell
LD 526

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