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Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

**LD 1008, An Act To Require Joint Use Entities To Establish Permanent Liaisons  
with All County Emergency Management Agencies**

Jay McCreight, HD 51, Harpswell, West Bath and Northeast Brunswick

4/6/2021

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, esteemed members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee, I am Jay McCreight, Representative for HD 51, Harpswell, West Bath and Northeast Brunswick. I write in support of **LD 1008, An Act to Require Joint Use Entities to Establish Permanent Liaisons with All County Emergency Management Agencies.**

I'm sure many of us remember the Halloween Day storm of 2017 and the more than week-long disruption of services that resulted in many areas of the state. In response, I presented a bill to address issues that were highlighted at that time, including the lack of communication among those responsible for service delivery and those whose primary task is the safety of Maine people – our emergency management agencies. Without a communication system in place to ensure quick information sharing and response to disasters or civil emergencies, we create added risks to those affected.

Since the passage of this into law\* which was specific to private electricity providers, significant improvements in safety were due to the creation of an effective communications loop. LD 1008 proposes to close communication gaps among all joint use entities and each county emergency management agency.

I urge you to support LD 1008. It will help us minimize or shorten disruptions to our essential services.

\*<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0281&item=3&num=129>.

