



# Maine County Commissioners Association

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## *LD 2122, An Act to Create Parity in the Licensing of Emergency Medical Services Professionals and Other Health Care Professionals Who Enter Private Residences*

February 8, 2024

Chair Bailey, Chair Perry, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, my name is Stephen Gorden and in addition to serving as a member of the board of commissioners for Cumberland County, I am writing today in my role as chair of the legislative policy committee of the Maine County Commissioners Association. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony to the Committee in support of LD 2122.

**About MCCA.** Briefly, the Maine County Commissioners Association was established in 1890 to assist Maine's county government in providing vital services to Maine citizens in a responsive, efficient, and credible manner. The Association is based in Augusta, represents all 16 of Maine's counties, and is governed by a board with representation from each participating county.

**What does LD 2122 do?** LD 2122 authorizes the Maine Emergency Medical Services of the Department of Public Safety to utilize the Background Check Center within the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct background checks for individuals seeking to be licensed or relicensed as an emergency medical services person or an emergency medical services ambulance operator.

**Discussion.** The Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State was established by Public Law 2021, chapter 749 to examine and make recommendations on the structure, support, and delivery of emergency medical services in the State, including costs and funding, workforce development and sustainability, Maine EMS structure, and regionalization. The Commission held several meetings over the course of 2022, and was composed of seventeen members, including a representative from county government.

LD 2122 codifies one of the several recommendations that the Commission outlined in its December 2022 Report. Specifically, LD 2122 codifies recommendation C-1 in the Commission's Report related to the growth of community paramedicine programs. Our Association broadly supports the recommendations contained in the Commission's Report, including the recommendation considered in LD 2122. Accordingly, we write in support of this proposal.

**Conclusion.** We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill, and if you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Gorden  
Chair, Legislative Policy Committee

**Comments of MCCA re LD 2122**

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cc: Commissioner Richard Dutremble, President, MCCA  
James I. Cohen, Verrill Dana, LLP, MCCA Legislative Counsel