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Senator Bailey, Representative Perry
And Members of the Health Care, Insurance and Financial Services Committee

Subject: Support for LD 2156 - An Act to Authorize the Provision of Emergency Medical Treatment by EMS for Certain Dogs in Maine

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express the unwavering support of NHOp K9 Med for LD 2156, "An Act to Authorize the Provision of Emergency Medical Treatment by EMS for Certain Dogs in Maine." As the President of NHOp K9 Med, an organization devoted to the health and well-being of working dogs, I believe that this proposed legislation is a crucial step toward ensuring the timely and specialized medical care for these indispensable members of our community.

LD 2156 addresses a critical need in your state by acknowledging the unique roles of working K9s and facilitating their access to prompt emergency medical treatment by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. Working dogs, including those in law enforcement, search and rescue, and various other public service capacities, contribute significantly to public safety and security. It is essential that these highly trained and dedicated animals receive the same level of care and consideration as their human counterparts, especially in emergency situations.

The proposed legislation not only exemplifies a commitment to recognizing the exceptional services provided by working K9s but also ensures that EMS personnel have the legal authority to administer

emergency medical treatment when needed. This not only upholds a moral obligation to ensure the well-being of these animals but also reflects our collective appreciation for their invaluable service to our communities.

I urge you to consider the positive impact that LD 2156 can have on the lives of working K9s in Maine and to support this crucial legislation. NHOp K9 Med is prepared to assist in any way possible to ensure the successful passage of this bill and contribute to the ongoing improvement of the lives of our working K9 partners.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I trust that your support for LD 2156 will pave the way for enhanced care and protection for our invaluable working K9s.

Sincerely,

Ashlyn McGrade, CVT
President NHOp K9 Med