



John Elias Baldacci
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
Emergency Services Communication Bureau
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Albert E. Gervenack
Director

Senator Ethan Strimling, Senate Chair
Representative William J. Smith, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Labor
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333.0001

April 4, 2006

Re: LD 2086, An Act To Facilitate the Regionalization of Emergency
Communications Dispatching Services

Dear Senator Strimling and Representative Smith:

My name is Albert Gervenack. I am the Director of the Emergency Services Communication Bureau (ESCB), at the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The ESCB is responsible for the statewide implementation and management of E9-1-1. I am here today to testify "In Favor" of LD 2086, "An Act To Facilitate the Regionalization of Emergency Communications Dispatching Services."

The enactment of LD 1423 during the 121st Full Legislative Session requires the PUC to attempt to limit the total number of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) to between 16 and 24 statewide.

The enactment of LD 1683 during the 121st Short Legislative Session established the Maine Communication System Policy Board of the Central Maine Regional Public Safety Communications Center (CMRCC). The 15 member Board is tasked to develop an implementation plan to accommodate the consolidation of the various governmental communications systems in Kennebec County. The plan must include provisions to ensure the employees of the communications unit are state employees.

LD 2086 allow employees from dispatch centers or PSAPs that are consolidating into the regional communications center to maintain employment by becoming a state employee as required in LD1683.

LD 2086 supports both LD1683 and LD 1423 in meeting the statutory requirements for statewide PSAP consolidation.

I urge the Labor Committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 2086.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this afternoon and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time. The Bureau will make itself available for any workshop sessions you may have in the future.

Albert Gervenack, Director
Emergency Services Communication Bureau