Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-$1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 617, Pt. H, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (4) to read:

(4) Authorize the obtaining and acquisition of property, supplies and materials pursuant to section 821;

Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-$1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 617, Pt. H, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (5) to read:

(5) Enlist the aid of any willing person to assist in the effort to control, put out or end the emergency or aid in the caring for the safety of persons;

Sec. 3. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-$1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 617, Pt. H, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (6) to read:

(6) Direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area within the State, if the Governor determines this action necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery;

Sec. 4. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-$1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 617, Pt. H, §1, is further amended by repealing subparagraph (9).

Sec. 5. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-$1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. In the event that an order issued by the Governor pursuant to the powers granted in paragraph C is to be in effect for longer than 30 days, the Governor shall, before the 20th day following the issuance of the order, convene the Legislature, and the Legislature must, by 2/3 vote in each House, vote to extend the state of emergency and the Governor's authority in doing so.

SUMMARY

This initiated bill limits the Governor's emergency authority after the filing of an emergency proclamation. It also requires approval by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature to extend a state of emergency.