16 June 2017

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1462, "Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Facilitate the Acquisition of Basic Emergency Medical Training in Rural Communities in the State."

This resolve proposes a pilot project whereby the Department of Public Safety would be forced to authorize “approved emergency medical services training centers” that would then offer a “community medical responder apprenticeship pilot project.” The Department of Public Safety must also report to the Legislature by January 15, 2019.

I believe the proponents also must assume that the State does not provide any training pipeline for those who are interested in becoming emergency medical technicians. This assumption is, however, totally incorrect.

In fact, Maine EMS, within the Department of Public Safety, oversees seven EMS training centers that are located in different regions of the state. Passing a resolve to establish a competing EMS program just does not make sense.

Because the Department of Public Safety is already doing what this bill proposes, I cannot support LD 1462.

For this reason, I return LD 1462 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor