



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1409

H.P. 905

House of Representatives, March 30, 2023

An Act to Require Reimbursement When a Municipality Hires First Responders Whose Training Costs Were Incurred by Another Municipality

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAY of Raymond.
Cosponsored by Representatives: HASENFUS of Readfield, HEPLER of Woolwich,
MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MATLACK of St. George, MILLETT of Waterford, PERKINS of
Dover-Foxcroft, Senator: GROHOSKI of Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3156-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§3156-A. Sharing of training costs**

4 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
5 following terms have the following meanings.

6 A. "First responder" means a municipal firefighter, volunteer firefighter or a person
7 who provides emergency services.

8 B. "Training" means training related to the prevention or extinguishment of fires or
9 responding to or managing other public safety emergencies, including, but not limited
10 to, medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents or natural or human-made
11 disasters.

12 C. "Training costs" means any costs incurred by a municipality for training a first
13 responder.

14 **2. Reimbursement for training costs.** Whenever a municipality has incurred training
15 costs related to a full-time first responder and that first responder is subsequently hired by
16 another municipality within 5 years of the first municipality's initial incurrence of any
17 training costs, the 2nd municipality shall reimburse the first municipality according to the
18 following formula, unless a mutual agreement is reached.

19 A. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality during the first year after the
20 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality shall
21 reimburse the first municipality 100% of the training costs.

22 B. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality during the 2nd year after the
23 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality shall
24 reimburse the first municipality 80% of the training costs.

25 C. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality during the 3rd year after the
26 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality shall
27 reimburse the first municipality 60% of the training costs.

28 D. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality during the 4th year after the
29 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality shall
30 reimburse the first municipality 40% of the training costs.

31 E. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality during the 5th year after the
32 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality shall
33 reimburse the first municipality 20% of the training costs.

34 F. If the first responder is hired by the 2nd municipality more than 5 years after the
35 first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, the 2nd municipality is not
36 obligated to reimburse the first municipality.

37 If the first responder is subsequently hired by additional municipalities within 5 years of
38 the first municipality's initial incurrence of any training costs, each of those governmental
39 entities is liable to the municipality immediately preceding it for the training costs paid by
40 that municipality under this subsection. The extent of financial liability must be determined
41 according to the formula established in this subsection.

SUMMARY

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This bill establishes a formula to reimburse municipalities for training costs for training full-time first responders if the first responder is hired by another municipality within 5 years of the first municipality's initial incurrence of training costs.