

## Position Paper for Agenda Item

To: Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

From: Michael Durkin, Director- Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency

Date: March 20, 2026

Subject: Intercounty EMA Mutual Aid Agreement

### **Requested Action**

CCEMA requests that the Commissioners authorize signature of the 2026 Intercounty Mutual Aid Agreement.

### **Background and Purpose of Request**

The Maine County Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement is a document that authorizes the use of EMA resources between Counties in times of disaster. It lays out the process of providing or receiving assistance as well as some standard language on liability and workers compensation.

The 2026 version of this agreement is near identical to the 2022 agreement which Cumberland County is party to but expired on December 31, 2028.

The only change of substance between versions is in Section C, paragraph 3. The previous version read “The County EMD that agrees to deploy resources shall gain authorization from their County Commissioners to respond to a resource request, unless the County Commissioners have prior delegated this authority to the County EMD.”

The new text allows a County EMD to deploy staff for a single operational period but requires Commissioner approval for subsequent periods. This was done to allow rapid response during disasters. An operational period can typically be anywhere from 6-12 hours.

### **Funding Amount and Source**

Not applicable.

### **Effective Date**

This agreement becomes effective upon signature and is valid until December 31, 2028.

### **Attachments**

- Intercounty EMA Agreement (4 pages)