

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
(Governor's Bill)  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1701**

H. P. 1709

House of Representatives, September 25, 1981

Reference to the Committee on Local and County Government suggested.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Dexter of Kingfield.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, to Authorize Franklin County Commissioners to Expend no more than \$120,000 to Subsidize the Farmington Branch of the Maine Central Railroad.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Maine Central Railroad, by an order of the Interstate Commerce Commission, was permitted to abandon 16.14 miles of track between Livermore Falls and Farmington; and

Whereas, the operating subsidy by the Department of Transportation to the Maine Central Railroad terminates on October 1, 1981; and

Whereas, the continued operation of the line is necessary for the economic stability and growth of Franklin County; and

Whereas, Franklin County and private industry have agreed to provide the necessary subsidy to assure the continued operation of the Farmington branch; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and required the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

**Resolves of 1981, chapter 11, section 4. Resolved:** That the Resolves of 1981, chapter 11, section 4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

**; and be it further**

**Resolves of 1981, chapter 11. Resolved:** That the Resolves of 1981, chapter 11 is amended by adding at the end 2 new sections to read:

**Sec. 5. Operating subsidy; Farmington Branch of Maine Central Railroad; 1981. Resolved:** That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the county commissioners are authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$30,000 of unappropriated surplus of the Franklin County General Fund for the calendar year 1981 for the purpose of providing an operating subsidy to the Department of Transportation for the continued operation of the Farmington Branch of the Maine Central Railroad; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Operating subsidy; Farmington Branch of Maine Central Railroad; 1982. Resolved:** That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the county commissioners are authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$90,000 of the Franklin County General Fund for the calendar year 1982 for the purpose of providing an operating subsidy to the Department of Transportation for the continued operation of the Farmington Branch of the Maine Central Railroad.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when approved.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this legislation is to authorize the Franklin County Commissioners to expend funds to subsidize the operation of the Farmington Branch of the Maine Central Railroad.