MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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	ONE HUNDREI) AND ELEV	ENTH LEG	ISLATURE	
Legislative	Document				No. 2160
S.P. 811			-	In Senate, Ma	rch 2, 1984
24.	ted by the Depa				
Presented by Cospon	y Senator Danto sors: Representa h and Represent	on of York. ative Melendy	of Rockland		
		STATE OF	MAINE		
		THE YEAR O			* .
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1 2 3	Whereas, the continued operation of this line depends on relief from the maintenance and operation costs of the bridge; and
4 5 6 7 8	Whereas, the Maine Central Railroad Company has expressed a willingness to guarantee service on the line at least until 1985, provided that the State resumes the responsibility for the bridge by February 1, 1984; and
9 10 11 12	Whereas, the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the bridge would, upon abandonment, revert wholly to the Department of Transportation; and
13 14 15 16 17	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,
19 20	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
21 22 23	Sec. 1. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.
24	1983-84
25	TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF
26	Bridge Maintenance
27	All Other \$100,000
28 29 30	Sec. 2. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from the Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.
31	1984-85
32	TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF
33	Bridge Maintenance

1 All Other \$150,000

Sec. 3. Maintenance; operation costs; contracts. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State is authorized to pay for the cost of maintenance and operation of the bridge, and to enter into contracts with the Maine Central Railroad, its successors and assigns, concerning the sharing of the costs of maintenance and operation, provided that nothing in this section shall prohibit the State from assuming all costs of maintenance and operation of the bridge after January 31, 1984.

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

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows the Department of Transportation to assume responsibility for 100% of the costs for the maintenance and operation of the Carleton Bridge between Bath and Woolwich and to provide the necessary funds to carry out this purpose.

The Department of Transportation has been approached by representatives of the Maine Central Railroad Company indicating that if the department, in the name of the State, will take over the operation and maintenance of the bridge, the railroad will continue to provide service on the branch for a period of at least 18 additional months.

The bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$100,000 for bridge maintenance in fiscal year 1984. The bill also requires an additional allocation from the Highway Fund for bridge maintenance in fiscal year 1985.

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