An Act to Enable the Use of Former Exit 5 on the Maine Turnpike for Access to an Adjacent Liquor Store and Hotel and Conference Center Facility.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by President DUTREMBLE of York. Cosponsored by Senator SUMMERS of Cumberland, Representative NADEAU of Saco and Representatives: KERR of Old Orchard Beach, PENDLETON of Scarborough.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1201, sub-§§37 and 38, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 506, Pt. A, §47, are amended to read:

37. Norway, South Paris and the Oxford Hills Region. Such sign shall be constructed and maintained on the Maine Turnpike no more than 7 miles southerly from exit 11 and shall be worded as follows:

EXIT FOR NORWAY, SOUTH PARIS AND THE OXFORD HILLS REGION; and

38. Bates College. The signs shall be provided by Bates College. The Maine Turnpike shall erect one sign on the side of the northbound lanes between exits 12 and 13 and one sign on the side of the southbound lanes north of exit 13. The Maine Turnpike Authority shall be responsible for the maintenance of the signs; and

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1201, sub-§39 is enacted to read:

39. Saco hotel and convention center and discount liquor store at former exit 5. Signs must be installed and maintained at appropriate distances from former exit 5 of the Maine Turnpike, 2 on each of the northbound and southbound lanes and in addition a pair of signs at former exit 5. The Maine Turnpike Authority, at the expense of the City of Saco, its successors and assigns, shall provide and maintain the signs. Each sign may incorporate commercial, single-colored or multicolored logos or designs used by the State Liquor and Lottery Commission and by the hotel or convention center operator as a means of identifying goods and services and include a brief description of the services available to the traveling public and must include the words "STATE OF MAINE DISCOUNT LIQUOR STORE."

Sec. 3. 23 MRSA §1967, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. MM, §6, is further amended to read:

1. Property of the authority. All property of the authority and all property held in the name of the State pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is exempt from levy and sale by virtue of any execution, and an execution or other judicial process is not a valid lien upon its property held pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The authority may not lease, sell or otherwise convey, or allow to be used, any of its real or personal property or easements in that property, franchises, buildings or structures, with access to any part of the turnpike or its approaches, for commercial purposes, with the exception of such intermodal transportation facilities, kiosks at rest areas,
gasoline filling stations, service and repair stations, state-operated liquor stores, state and tri-state lottery ticket agencies, automatic teller machines and restaurants as it determines necessary to service the needs of the traveling public while using the turnpike, except that the authority may permit the erection or installation of electric power, telegraph, telephone, water, sewer or pipeline facilities; and provided also that the leasehold interests in such intermodal transportation facilities, kiosks, gasoline filling stations, service and repair stations, state-operated liquor stores, state and tri-state lottery ticket agencies, automatic teller machines and restaurants are subject to taxation as provided in section 1971.

Sec. 4. 23 MRSA §1967, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Access. Notwithstanding subsection 1, the authority may permit the use of the interchange and adjoining land located on or about former exit 5 on the turnpike by the City of Saco, its successors or assigns, for access, utilities lines and appurtenances, parking and related accessory rights for the benefit of a liquor store, regional information center and a full-service hotel, restaurant, banquet and conference center facility, to be located on property adjacent to the access way that formerly connected that interchange with North Street in the City of Saco, upon such terms and conditions as are mutually agreed upon by the authority and the City of Saco, its successors or assigns. Access to and from the turnpike by means of the interchange at former exit 5 is restricted to the liquor store, regional information center and a full-service hotel, restaurant, banquet and conference center and the interchange may not be a means for gaining access to public roads other than the turnpike.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows the Maine Turnpike Authority to permit the use of former exit 5 on the Maine Turnpike in Saco for access from the turnpike to a liquor store, conference center, restaurant and hotel complex to be developed on land now owned by the City of Saco and to be developed for the described purposes by a private developer to be selected by the city. It is intended that the provision of specific authorization in this bill not be interpreted in derogation of any express or inherent powers the authority already may have to accomplish these purposes.

This document has not yet been reviewed to determine the need for cross-reference, stylistic and other technical amendments to conform existing law to current drafting standards.

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