An Act to Add Members to the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.
Cosponsored by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland and
Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, KANE of Saco, MAILHOT of Lewiston,
McALEYVEY of Waterboro, O'NEIL of Saco, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, Senators:
LaFOUNTAIN of York, RAND of Cumberland.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1965, sub-$2, ¶A, as amended by PL 1995, c. 108, §1, is further amended to read:

A. The authority consists of 8 members. Four members are appointed by the Governor; 2 members are appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom must represent Maine residents who regularly use the Maine Turnpike; and 2 members are appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of whom must represent Maine residents who regularly use the Maine Turnpike. The members are subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation and subject to confirmation by the Legislature. The Commissioner of Transportation is a member and the Public Advocate are ex officio members of the authority. The Commissioner of Transportation and the Public Advocate may designate a deputy, director, assistant or other officer or employee of the department each appoint a designee to represent the Commissioner of Transportation and the Public Advocate at meetings of the authority with full power to act and vote on behalf of the Commissioner of Transportation and the Public Advocate. Upon the expiration of the term of office of any member, the Governor appointing authority responsible for making the appointment shall appoint a new member who serves in office for a term of 3 years and until a successor is duly appointed and qualified, and any member of the authority is. Members are eligible for reappointment. In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the authority caused by the death, incapacity, resignation or removal of a member, the Governor appointing authority shall appoint a member to fill that vacancy only for the unexpired term of office of the member whose death, incapacity, resignation or removal created the vacancy, but the newly appointed member may be appointed at the end of the unexpired term in accordance with this subsection. In all events, a member may not be appointed to the authority who is not a resident of the State at the time of the appointment and qualification, or who has not been a qualified voter in the State for a period of at least one year next preceding the appointment.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1965, sub-$2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 595, §3, is amended to read:

B. Immediately after their appointments, the members of the authority shall enter upon their duties. The Governor shall name one of the appointed members as chairman chair of the authority. The authority shall elect a secretary and treasurer who need not be a member of the authority, and
shall elect an executive director or general manager who is not a member of the authority. Three Five members of the authority shall constitute a quorum and 5 votes shall be required for the authority to act on any matter, although a lesser number may adjourn. No vacancy in the authority impairs the right of a quorum of the members to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the authority.

Sec. 3. Initial appointments. Of the 4 initial appointments to the Maine Turnpike Authority made by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1965, subsection 2, paragraph A, one member appointed by the President of the Senate and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House serve initial terms of 2 years. The 2 other new members serve initial terms of 3 years.

SUMMARY

This bill increases the membership of the Maine Turnpike Authority to include 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate and 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House. It also makes the Public Advocate an ex officio member and increases the number of members that constitutes a quorum from 3 members to 5 members.