

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
105TH LEGISLATURE

SENATE AMENDMENT "A " to H. P. 1201, L. D. 1652, Bill,
"AN ACT Providing for a Feasibility Study for High Speed Rail
Service for Maine."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the
enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

Transportation needs study. The State of Maine authorizes
the Maine State Planning Office to undertake a state transportation
needs study that will examine the overall issues and problems with
the objective of determining various alternatives to current trends,
recommending goals for establishment of a balanced system including
bus and rail passenger service for local and intercity purposes,
and suggesting possible actions that could be taken by the State
of Maine and the various agencies concerned with transportation.
The transportation needs study shall investigate the possibilities
of a high speed rail system or of reestablishment of former rail
passenger service under the auspices of the new National Railroad
Passenger Corporation along with the analysis connecting bus
services that may be required, or both.

The study will take into consideration past studies at all
levels of government in the area of Maine transportation needs.
The study will not necessitate the appropriation of any state funds.

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In addition to the statutory purpose of this study, the work requested should:

1. Encourage cooperative, comprehensive and continuing planning by each urban area covering the provision of publicly used transportation facilities and services.
2. Help develop a recommended program of state expenditures which is coordinated with regional and local plans and programs.
3. Collect information to increase the effectiveness of the allocation of federal and state resources.

This study is designed to provide a number of benefits. First, it will develop a total picture of the State's transportation system. The study will produce the first transportation report to the Legislature and the Governor that analyzes a balanced and integrated transportation approach involving, but not limited to, highway, air, bus, water and rail. Second, it can improve the quality of transportation planning at all levels of government, as well as in the private sector, by stimulating more thorough analysis of alternative forms of transportation in view of the knowledge that transportation does shape the development of Maine. Third, it will increase the relevance of planning by linking local, state and federal efforts into an overall state planning, policy making, and implementation framework. Fourth, it will provide a better base for State policy-making decisions by presenting information and alternatives for the entire state transportation system in a single consistent manner. Finally, it can stimulate the building of institutions at and

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between all levels of government and industry to encourage more intelligent decision making in the state's transportation system.

The study will include the following framework:

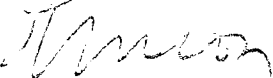
- a. Delineation of goals, objectives and standards.
- b. Estimation of travel.
- c. Development of alternative ways of serving travel within the given goals and objectives.
- d. Estimation of costs and benefits of alternative transportation proposals.
- e. Analysis of alternatives and selection of the best alternative.
- f. Reducing the "best" alternative to an estimate of capital needs on both a short and long range basis.'

Statement of Fact

The State of Maine has not been included in the new passenger rail system outlined by the United States Department of Transportation. Rail transportation is both immensely safer and cheaper than auto transportation. Most modern communities are developing inter-city transportation systems of at least 150 miles per hour capability. An adequate transportation system is a prerequisite for efficient social, industrial and commercial activity. The State of Maine does not possess a comprehensive transportation planning system.

Proposed by Senator:

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(Johnson)

NAME:

COUNTY: Somerset

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