

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1652

H. P. 1201

House of Representatives, March 17, 1971

Referred to Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McCloskey of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

**AN ACT Providing for a Feasibility Study for High Speed Rail Service for
Maine.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Highway Fund a sum of \$500,000 for the study of high speed rail for Maine and an integrated transportation system. The study shall be undertaken by the State Planning Office utilizing any federal funds for such a study as might be available from the United States Department of Transportation.

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. The costs of highway transportation exceed more than \$500,000,000 a year in Maine. Rail transportation is both immensely safer and cheaper than auto transportation. Most modern communities are developing intercity 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.