

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of: H. P. 725, L. D. 905

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE**

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1900**

H. P. 1626

House of Representatives, May 23, 1975

Reported by Majority from the Committee on Transportation and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE**

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**AN ACT to Establish the Construction of Bikeways as a Responsibility of the Department of Transportation and to Provide Funding Therefor.**

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

23 MRSA c. 10 is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 10**

**BIKEWAYS**

**§ 611. Definition**

For the purposes of this chapter, a bikeway is defined as a vehicle way, paved or unpaved, upon which bicycles, unicycles or other man-powered vehicles may be pedaled. It may be part of a road or highway, or it may be adjacent to a road or highway.

**§ 612. Authority of Department of Transportation**

The Department of Transportation is authorized to construct bikeways within the existing rights-of-way of any state or state-aid highway. The department may also acquire additional rights-of-way adjacent to existing highway rights-of-way for the construction of bikeways. Such construction and acquisition of rights-of-way shall be accomplished in the same manner provided in this Title for highways.

The Department of Transportation shall consider development of bikeways when developing capital improvement programs.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The popularity of bicycles for both basic transportation and recreational activities has increased materially in the past few years. Many states have begun to create bikeways to satisfy these needs. This bill allows for the construction of bikeways and allows the Department of Transportation to consider the funding of improvements in this regard.