MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. H-743)

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 108TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 343,
L.D. 388, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to the Maine Turnpike Authority."

Amend the Amendment by striking out everything after the title and inserting in its place the following:

'Amend the Bill by striking out all of the title and inserting in its place the following:

'AN ACT Establishing a Single Toll Facility on the Maine Turnpike."

Further amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

- 'Sec. 1. Single toll facility established. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the payment of all bonded indebtedness incurred by the Maine Turnpike Authority prior to the effective date of this Act, the State of Maine acting through the Department of Transportation, shall assume all responsibilities for operation and maintenance of the Maine turnpike and shall:
- 1. Within one year thereafter, remove all toll barriers from the turnpike, except as provided in subsection 2; and
- 2. Within one year thereafter, establish a single toll barrier at York in York County to be operated and maintained by the department. A toll of 75¢ shall be charged to all vehicles passing through the barrier.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 343,
L.D. 388

Sec. 2. Reduction of exemptions. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1, subsection 2, the department may, as it deems necessary, grant reduction in or exemption from the toll established by section 1, subsection 2, to persons or classes of persons showing a special need for the reduction or exemption.

<u>Sec. 3. Rules and regulations</u>. The department shall promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment would provide that, following payment of current indebtedness by the Maine Turnpike Authority, a single toll barrier would be established at York and a 75¢ toll charged to incoming and outgoing vehicles.

When the turnpike proposal was brought to the Maine voters, it was understood that when the bond issue was paid, there would be no future tolls. Realizing that moneys are necessary for the maintenance of the highway, the most equitable solution to the problem of raising this money is a single toll booth at the state entrance which would affect the tourists and business people more than the residents of this State.

Filed by Mr. Biron of Lewiston.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House. 6/20/77