MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 681

H. P. 550 House of Representatives, February 21, 1979 On Motion of Mr. Carroll of Limerick, referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. LaPlante of Sabattus.

Cosponsors: Mr. Brodeur of Auburn, Mr. McPherson of Eliot and Mr. Lancaster of Kittery.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Exempt School Buses from Tolls on the Maine Turnpike.

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

- Sec. 1. 23 MRSA § 336, sub-§ 3 is enacted to read:
- 3. School bus use of turnpike. The turnpike may be used at any and all times without toll, charge or fee by school buses transporting students to and from school, to and from school activities for which school bus transportation is approved by appropriate school authorities, and to and from municipally operated activities or activities of a nonprofit corporation or association for which school bus transportation is approved by appropriate school authorities.
 - Sec. 2. P&SL 1941, c. 69, \S 11, \P (f) is enacted to read:
 - (f) The turnpike may be used at any and all times without toll, charge or fee by school buses transporting students to and from school, to and from school activities for which school bus transportation is approved by appropriate school authorities, and to and from municipally operated activities or activities of a nonprofit corporation or association for which school bus transportation is approved by appropriate school authorities.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to allow school buses to use the Maine Turnpike without toll or charge. A number of municipalities could transport students more efficiently without increasing costs, if the turnpike is made available to school bus use without charge.

This bill will not jeopardize the bonded indebtedness of the Maine Turnpike Authority or the revenues derived from the turnpike when it becomes part of the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation. Since the Maine Turnpike Authority is reducing its bond obligations at a much faster rate than planned, this bill will not produce any adverse effects with respect to the authority, but it will significantly help many municipalities.