

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 758

H. P. 617 House of Representatives, February 23, 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. Davies of Orono.

Cosponsor: Miss Gavett of Orono.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Provide for an Exit Sign at the Orono Exit and at the Stillwater Exit on
I-95 to Direct Traffic to the University of Maine at Orono.**

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA § 1201, headnote and first and 2nd ¶¶, as amended by PL 1971, c. 593, § 22, are repealed and the following enacted in their place:

§ 1201. Recreational and cultural areas on turnpike system

In order to guide the users of the state turnpike system to the exit leading therefrom to the major recreational and cultural areas of the State, there shall be erected and maintained at strategic points on the rights-of-way beside the lanes of traffic approaching those exits, separate descriptive and directional signs having a design which makes each sign conspicuous and readable by persons traveling at the maximum lawful speed. The department shall erect and maintain the signs on the state constructed and maintained interstate system and the Maine Turnpike Authority shall erect and maintain the signs on the highways constructed by the authority; and the State and authority shall cause the wording of the signs to be sufficiently descriptive of the area to identify it clearly to the traveling public. Nothing in this section shall require the department to erect signs which are not in accordance with the Manual for Signing and Pavement Marking of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, this manual having been adopted by

the American Association of State Highway Officials and approved by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads.

The major recreational and cultural areas of the State are:

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA § 1201, sub-§ 31 is enacted to read:

31. University of Maine. A sign shall be constructed and maintained on Interstate 95 south of the Orono exit and shall be worded:

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

AT ORONO

USE STILLWATER AVENUE EXIT

and a sign shall be constructed and maintained on Interstate 95 south of the Stillwater exit and shall be worded:

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

AT ORONO

THIS EXIT

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides for signs on I-95 at the Orono exit and at the Stillwater exit directing travellers who desire to go to the University of Maine at Orono to use the Stillwater exit. Many persons now use the Orono exit to get to the University of Maine and they therefore have to travel through downtown Orono. This stream of travellers through Orono causes a lot of unnecessary traffic congestion which slows down travellers to the University of Maine.

This bill, by diverting traffic for the University of Maine at Orono to the Stillwater exit, will ease traffic congestion in downtown Orono and will provide for a smoother flow of traffic to the Orono campus of the University of Maine.