

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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D O E R

L.D. 1827

(Filing No. S-515)

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Corrected Copy

SENATE AMENDMENT "H " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. '1723, L.D. 1827, Bill, "AN ACT to Amend Allocations from the Highway Fund for the Fiscal Years from July 1, 1979 to June 30, 1980 and from July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981, Decrease the State Aid Bonus from 40% to 20%, and Revise Drivers' License and Examination Fees."

Amend the Amendment by striking out all of the 3rd, 4th and 5th lines and inserting in their place the following:

'AN ACT to Revise the Allocations from the Highway Fund for the Fiscal Years Beginning July 1, 1979 and Ending June 30, 1981, to Revise Operator License Examination Fees, and to Temporarily Revise the Allocation of Motor Fuel Tax Revenues to other Dedicated Funds.

Further amend the Bill by striking out all of the emergency preamble.'

Further amend the Amendment by inserting before section 6 the following:

'Sec. 5-A. 36 MRSA §2903-A, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 513, at the end §22, is further amended by adding/a new paragraph to read:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year 1980-81 only, there is set aside 0.25% of the total excise tax on internal combustion engine fuel sold or used within the State for the purposes specified in this section. The Commissioner of Finance and Administration shall determine the allocations to be paid from the Highway Fund to fund the refunds paid out under section 2908 and to fund the Commissioner of Marine Resources

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as herein provided based upon the sales of internal combustion engine fuel and the tax rates established in this section. The allocations to the Commissioner of Marine Resources and for refunds for 1980-81 as required in this section shall be made by the Treasurer of State.

Sec. 5-B. 36 MRSA §2903-B, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 613, §22, <sup>at the end</sup> and as amended, is further amended by adding/a new paragraph to read:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year 1980-81 only, no moneys shall be set aside for the purposes provided in this section.'

Further amend the Amendment in section 6 by striking out in the 5th line the underlined figure "3,717,265" and inserting in its place the underlined figure '3,696,265'

Further amend the Amendment by striking out all of section 7 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 7. PL 1979, c. 439, Part A, §1, under the caption "16 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY," the following is amended to read:  
0291 State Police.....2-681

Unallocated	8,443,538	<del>8,607,628</del>
		<u>8,207,628'</u>

Further amend the Amendment in section 8 by striking out all parts relating to numbers 0341 to 0354 and inserting in their place the following:

'0341 Transportation-Planning and Services.....2-715

Unallocated	<del>730,009</del>	<del>768,000</del>
	<u>630,809</u>	<u>568,000</u>

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0339	Highway-Administration.....2-701		
	Unallocated	3,694,645	3,827,050
		<u>3,594,645</u>	<u>3,527,050</u>
0336	Highway-State Aid Construction.....2-733		
	Unallocated	7,900,000	7,900,000
		<u>400,000</u>	<u>7,205,000</u>
0355	Highway-Town Road Improvement Fund.....2-734		
	Unallocated	1,000,000	1,000,000
			<u>800,000</u>
0330	Highway-Summer Mainte- nance.....2-720		
	Unallocated	27,285,700	28,719,900
			<u>26,719,900</u>
0332	Highway-Picnic Area.....2-725		
	Unallocated	105,307	107,604
			<u>7,604</u>
0354	Highway-Winter Mainte- nance.....2-741		
	Unallocated	17,111,200	17,908,874
		<u>16,386,208</u>	<u>17,408,874</u>

Further amend the Amendment by striking out all of the last 2 lines of section 9 and inserting in their place the following:

'Total Allocations	\$95,000,943	\$95,786,207
	<u>\$86,314,543</u>	<u>\$89,634,207</u>

Further amend the Amendment by striking out all of the last 2 paragraphs before the statement of fact and inserting in their place the following:

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'Amounting to ~~\$95,000,943~~ \$87,314,543 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980, and ~~\$95,786,207~~ \$89,634,207 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1981.

Sec. 11. Unallocated study. The Legislature finds that revenues to the dedicated Highway Fund have substantially declined because of reduced gasoline consumption caused by the spiraling cost of gasoline and the successful conservation efforts undertaken by Maine citizens. It finds that costs for the Department of Transportation have increased at an accelerated pace due to inflation. It finds that the gap between revenues and expenditures will be significant for the next biennium unless positive actions are taken.

It is essential that long-range plans be made for the department to identify those high priority programs and services which are essential for the preservation of public safety.

Therefore, the Commissioner of Finance and Administration is directed to employ objective professional consultants at the expense of the Highway Fund to evaluate the administration, planning and operation of the programs and services funded by the highway budget. The evaluation should include a study of the cost-effectiveness of programs, alternative methods of delivery and priority of services. The consultants shall coordinate their activities with the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and Program Review.

The study should make recommendations as to the source and size of future revenues which would be required to maintain the

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basic priority and other essential services of the department. It will also provide information necessary to balance Highway Fund activities properly against projected needs for the next biennium.

This study shall be completed and a report, including all necessary legislation, made to the Governor in a timely manner prior to a special session of the Legislature to be held no later than September 15, 1980, to deal with its recommendations.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this amendment is to compensate for the expected shortfall of \$16,700,000 in revenues to the Highway Fund. This amendment increases operator license fees and driver examination fees, reduces program allocations and revises the percentage of funds set aside for the motorboat user and the snowmobiler.

Fee Increases

This amendment increases operator license fees by \$1.50 per year for increased revenues of \$1,050,000. In addition, driver examination fees are increased by \$5 for the initial fee and by \$3 for subsequent fees to produce increased revenues of \$306,000. Total/increases produce added revenues of \$1,356,000.

Motorboat and Snowmobile Excise Tax Revenues

For fiscal year 1980-81 only, this amendment reduces from 1.25% to 0.25% of the total excise tax on internal combustion engine fuel that is allocated for motorboat users and the Boating Facilities Fund. The Highway Fund will fund refunds to commercial motor boat users and allocations to the Commissioner of Marine Resources that are currently paid from the 1.25% allocation. It is expected that \$500,000 will be realized from this source.

For the fiscal year 1980-81 only, the allocation of 0.5% from the excise tax on internal combustion engine fuel for snowmobile purposes is eliminated. Approximately \$250,000 will be realized from this source.

The total amount of revenues realized from these tax sources is \$750,000.

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Program Reductions

A total of \$14,841,000 is reduced from programs funded by the highway budget.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount of Reduction 1979-80</u>	<u>Amount of Reduction 1980-81</u>
1. Motor Vehicle Admin.	\$ 50,000	\$ 471,000
2. State Police		400,000
3. Transportation - Planning	100,000	200,000
4. Highway - Administration	100,000	300,000
5. State Aid Construction	7,500,000	695,000
6. Town Road Improvement		200,000
7. Summer Maintenance		2,000,000
8. Picnic Area Construction		100,000
9. Highway Winter Maintenance	725,000	500,000
10. Highway Bond Interest	219,400	210,600
11. Highway Bond Retirement		570,000
12. Highway & Bridge Improvements		500,000
Total Reductions	\$8,694,400	\$6,146,600

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NAME:

COUNTY: Penobscot

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