

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 493

S. P. 192

In Senate, January 29, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Emerson of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

**RESOLVE, Authorizing and Directing the Department of Transportation to Report on the Effect of the 1980 Census in Establishing Compact Areas.**

**Preamble.** Whereas, the responsibility for summer and winter maintenance on Maine roads and highways is shared between the State and the municipalities; and

Whereas, the division of responsibility for that maintenance is influenced by those factors, municipal populations and densities; and

Whereas, the division of responsibility establishes financial burdens on both state and local government; and

Whereas, the law which prescribes the division of responsibility has not been revised since 1971; and

Whereas, the completion of the 1980 Census will result in a significant realignment of responsibilities; now, therefore, be it

**Compact areas; report. Resolved:** That the Department of Transportation is directed to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by January 1, 1982, the effect of the 1980 Census is establishing compact areas. In its report, the department shall itemize for each municipality the effect of the 1980 Census in realigning responsibilities for road and highway maintenance. Specifically, the department shall note in miles or portions thereof any shifts from state to municipal or from municipal to state in responsibility for summer maintenance and separately for winter maintenance. The department shall list those

municipalities whose population, as a result of the census, dropped below 5,000 and then those which rose above 5,000. Similarly the department shall list those municipalities whose population dropped below 2,500 and then those which rose above 2,500. The department shall list all municipalities exceeding a population of 2,500 and separately all municipalities exceeding a population of 5,000.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolve is to assure the 110th Legislature complete knowledge of the effect the 1980 Census will have in redistributing responsibilities for highway and road maintenance between state and municipal government. Occasioned by the 1970 Census the Legislature reviewed the population and density factors applied in distributing responsibility and at that time the Legislature made some adjustment. Similar adjustments may be justified at this time. The information resulting from this resolve will help the Legislature make this determination.