## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
01	E HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
Legislative Doo	cument No. 913
H.P. 627	House of Representatives, March 1, 1985
	before the House and referred to the Committee on p for concurrence and ordered printed.
	EDWIN H. PERT, Clerl
Presented by Re Cosponsored Connolly of Por	presentative Reeves of Pittston.  I by Representative Allen of Washington and Representative tland.
	STATE OF MAINE
	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD INETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
to Auth Mone	SOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine orize the Expenditure of Highway Fund y for Public Transportation that is ndent upon Highways and Bridges for Operation.
of each b	utional amendment. RESOLVED: Two thirds ranch of the Legislature concurring, that ng amendment to the Constitution of Mains:
Constit	ution, Article IX, §19 is amended to read:
vehicle and nues derive lating to ron public hairon of s	19. Limitation on expenditure of motor motor vehicle fuel revenues. All reved from fees, excises and license taxes registration, operation and use of vehicles ighways, and to fuels used for the propuluch vehicles shall be expended solely for inistration, statutory refunds and adjust-

construction and reconstruction of highways bridges, the cost of construction, reconstruction. maintenance and repair of public highways and bridges under the direction and supervision of a state department having jurisdiction over such highways bridges, the expenses and cost of public transportation facilities and equipment requiring the use Maine's highways and highway bridges and expense for state enforcement of traffic laws and shall not be diverted for any purpose, provided that these limitashall not apply to revenue from an excise tax on motor vehicles imposed in lieu of personal propertv tax.

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Constitutional referendum procedure; question; effective date. Resolved: That the city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at a statewide election, on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to allow the use of Highway Fund money for purposes of public transportation which is dependent upon the use of Maine's highways and bridges?"

legal voters of each city, town plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment shall become part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this constitutional resolution is to allow the use of Highway Fund money for public transportation purposes. The money could only be used for those public transportation means that rely on Maine's highway and bridges for operation. Railroads and airports would not be eligible for Highway Fund money.

Currently, Highway Fund money may only be used for expenses incurred by and for the costs of highway construction, reconstruction, maintenance, administration and enforcement of traffic laws. Public transportation, which reduces traffic volume and road maintenance and repair costs, is not now eligible for Highway Fund funding.

Public transportation, in addition to reducing road maintenance costs, enables people, particularly in rural areas, to obtain medical care, to obtain employment in areas distant from their residence and to meet other needs for which transportation is necessary. This resolution is to further the health, welfare and safety of the general public.

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