

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

R 9 9

DATE: April 25, 1995 (Filing No. S- 85 )

TRANSPORTATION

Reported by: Senator STEVENS of Androscoggin for the Committee.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
117TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 139, L.D. 325, Bill, "An Act to Revise the Maine Turnpike Authority's Powers with Respect to Commuter Tolls"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, traffic on the Maine Turnpike has increased 14% since 1991; and

Whereas, congestion pricing may have potential as a demand management strategy; and

Whereas, the Sensible Transportation Policy Act requires that alternatives be evaluated prior to increasing highway capacity through road building; and

Whereas, it is in the public's interest to begin a congestion pricing study in the summer of 1995; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R d S

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

4 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1973, sub-§4, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 1981, c.  
595, §3, is amended to read:

6  
8 A. The authority shall establish a system of commuter  
discounts to provide passenger vehicles with reduced rates  
10 ~~which rates shall that may~~ not exceed 50% of the normal  
passenger vehicle toll ~~in effect on June 1, 1981, except~~  
12 ~~that after July 1, 1985, commuter fares may be adjusted~~  
~~generally proportionately to any other fare adjustments.~~

14 **Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1973, sub-§4, ¶A-1** is enacted to read:

16 A-1. Notwithstanding paragraph A, for the period beginning  
18 on the effective date of this paragraph and ending on April  
1, 1997, the authority may establish a system of variable  
20 rate commuter discounts. This paragraph is repealed on  
April 1, 1997.

22 **Sec. 3. Reports on congestion pricing studies.** The Maine Turnpike  
24 Authority shall submit an interim report on the congestion  
pricing studies to the joint standing committee of the  
26 Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters no  
later than January 15, 1996. The interim report must describe  
28 the study design, including adjustments to fees, fares and tolls  
by class of vehicle, time of day, week or year, number of  
30 passengers or any other factor on which an adjustment is based.  
The interim report must describe the segments of the turnpike on  
which the study has been or will be implemented.

32  
34 The Maine Turnpike Authority shall submit a final report to  
the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
36 jurisdiction over transportation matters no later than January  
15, 1997 on congestion pricing studies conducted in 1995 and  
1996. The final report must include conclusions from the study.

38 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
40 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

42 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

44  
46 This amendment replaces the original bill. It provides the  
Maine Turnpike Authority with greater flexibility in setting its  
commuter discount rates for a period of 2 years. It requires the  
48 authority to report back to the joint standing committee of the  
Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters on

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 139, L.D. 325

2 congestion pricing studies conducted during that period. This amendment also adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**