

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: March 4, 1996 (Filing No. S- 443)

TRANSPORTATION

Reported by: The Minority of the Committee.

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 648, L.D. 1690, Bill, "An Act Relating to the Potential Improvement of the Maine Turnpike Authority"

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1965-B is enacted to read:

§1965-B. Directive to proceed with turnpike widening

The authority shall proceed with actions necessary to widen the turnpike to 3 lanes of travel for each direction of travel from Exit 1 to and including Exit 6-A upon meeting the requirements of section 1965-A.

Sec. 2. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at general election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor giving the Maine Turnpike Authority the authority to widen the travel way of the turnpike to 3 lanes for each direction of travel from Exit 1 to and including Exit 6-A?"

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 648, L.D. 1690

2 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice
4 by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received,
6 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation
meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same
8 manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor
shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of
10 the legal votes are cast in favor of the Act, the Governor shall
proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30
12 days after the date of the proclamation.

14 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each
city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this
16 Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.'

18 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
statement of fact the following:

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FISCAL NOTE

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24 The estimated cost of sending this Act out to referendum
will vary according to the total number of referenda enacted
during the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature to be
26 submitted to the voters in November. The estimated cost to the
Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are enacted is \$95,000.
28 Each additional referendum costs an additional \$7,000.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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34 This amendment is the minority report. It directs the Maine
Turnpike Authority to proceed with all actions necessary to widen
the turnpike from Exit 1 to Exit 6-A upon meeting the
36 requirements of the Sensible Transportation Policy Act as defined
in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1965-A and upon
38 approval of the widening by the voters in a statewide referendum.