

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1690

S.P. 648

In Senate, January 11, 1996

An Act Relating to the Potential Improvement of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President BUTLAND of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, AMERO of Cumberland, BEGLEY of Lincoln, BENOIT of Franklin, CARPENTER of York, CASSIDY of Washington, FERGUSON of Oxford, HALL of Piscataquis, KIEFFER of Aroostook, LAWRENCE of York, LORD of York, MILLS of Somerset, STEVENS of Androscoggin, Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, DiPIETRO of South Portland, FARNUM of South Berwick, JOYCE of Biddeford, JOYNER of Hollis, KERR of Old Orchard Beach, LEMONT of Kittery, LIBBY of Buxton, MARSHALL of Eliot, MURPHY of Berwick, PLOWMAN of Hampden, POIRIER of Saco, POULIOT of Lewiston, RICE of South Bristol.

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

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Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1965-A, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 341, §2, is amended to read:

2. Review of transportation policy. Upon completing the evaluation required under subsection 1, the authority shall review the alternatives to determine if the alternatives can meet the identified transportation deficiency or need in a safe manner at a reasonable cost with available technology. If, based on the evaluation, the authority finds that the alternatives do not meet the identified deficiency or need and also finds that the requirements under section 73, subsection 3, paragraphs A, C, D, E, F and G are met:

- A. A final license, permit, or approval necessary for the widening or expansion of the turnpike may be issued by the appropriate state agency; and
- B. ~~The alternative-evaluation-and-preference~~ requirements of section 73 and rules adopted pursuant to section 73 are considered satisfied.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1968, sub-§2-B is enacted to read:

2-B. Bonds for widening of turnpike. In addition to bonds outstanding pursuant to subsections 1, 2 and 2-A, the authority may provide by resolution from time to time for the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds, including notes or other evidences of indebtedness or obligations defined to be bonds under this chapter, but not exceeding \$100,000,000 in principal amount at any one time outstanding exclusive of refundings, to pay the cost or a portion of the cost of constructing all or a portion of a 3rd travel lane for each direction of travel on the turnpike from Exit 1 to, and including, Exit 6-A, to the extent authorized pursuant to section 1965, subsection 1, paragraph D, and for the construction or reconstruction of overpasses, bridges, interchanges, tunnels, underpasses and toll facilities in connection with the addition of the lane or lanes.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill increases the amount of bonds the Maine Turnpike Authority may issue in connection with a widening of the turnpike from Exit 1 to Exit 6-A, if all or a portion of a project is approved under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, sections 1965 and 1965-A. The bill also clarifies the Maine Turnpike Authority's obligations with respect to other aspects of transportation planning that pertain to such a project.