

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

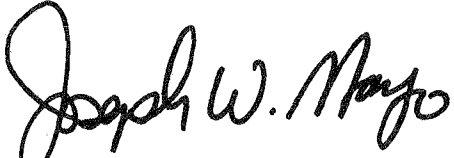
No. 934

H.P. 682

House of Representatives, February 11, 1997

An Act to Add One Cent to the Gasoline Tax to Expand the Maine State Ferry Service between Frenchboro and Bass Harbor and Provide Municipalities with Road Maintenance Revenue.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative VOLENIK of Brooklin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BULL of Freeport, GOODWIN of Pembroke, SKOGLUND of St. George.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4401**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 544, §1, is
4 further amended to read:

6 **§4401. Ferry service for North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro,
8 Matinicus Isle, Swan's Island and Frenchboro**

10 It is the duty of the Department of Transportation to
12 operate a ferry route or routes between the mainland and the
14 towns of North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Matinicus Isle and
16 Swan's Island for the purpose of transporting vehicles, freight
18 and passengers to and from these towns, and the department may
20 shall operate the ferry route or routes to and from Frenchboro.
22 Ferry service to Matinicus Isle ~~shall~~ must be at least 12 times
24 per year and may be up to 24 times per year and may be provided
26 by state-owned or ~~privately-contracted~~ privately contracted
28 vessels. These ferry routes ~~shall~~ must be designated as the
30 "Maine State Ferry Service."

32 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §2903, sub-§1, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by
34 PL 1991, c. 846, §31 and affected by §40, is amended to read:

36 A. The excise tax on internal combustion engine fuel used
38 or sold within this State, including sales to the State or a
40 political subdivision of the State, is ~~19¢~~ 20¢ per gallon,
42 except that the rate is ~~3.4¢~~ 4.4¢ per gallon on internal
44 combustion engine fuel, as defined in section 2902, bought
46 or used for the purpose of propelling jet or turbojet engine
48 aircraft.

50 **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §2903-D** is enacted to read:

52 **§2903-D. One cent for ferries and municipal roads**

One cent of the gasoline excise tax established under
section 2903, subsection 1, paragraph A must be used as follows.

1. Frenchboro ferry service. Five percent must be used by
the Department of Transportation pursuant to Title 23, section
4401 to purchase and operate a Maine State Ferry Service boat to
service Frenchboro and provide a minimum of 2 daily round-trip
ferry runs to Frenchboro with that boat.

2. Maine State Ferry. Five percent must be used by the
Department of Transportation for Maine State Ferry Service
operating expenses in excess of expenses paid for by passenger
revenues.

3. Municipal road maintenance. Ninety percent must be
distributed to municipalities for the purpose of road
maintenance. The distribution to each municipality must be

2 proportional, based upon the miles of roads maintained by a
3 municipality as determined under Title 23, section 1803-B.

4

SUMMARY

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8 This bill provides a 1¢ increase in the gasoline tax to be
9 used as follows: 5% must be used to purchase and operate a Maine
10 State Ferry Service boat to service Frenchboro and provide a
11 minimum of 2 daily round-trip ferry runs to Frenchboro with that
12 boat; 5% must be used by the Maine State Ferry Service for
13 operating expenses in excess of expenses paid for by passenger
14 revenues; and 90% must be distributed to municipalities for the
purpose of road maintenance.