



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1600

S.P. 538

In Senate, March 2, 1999

Resolve, to Transfer the Functions and Responsibilities of the Maine Turnpike Authority to the Department of Transportation.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford. Cosponsored by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston and Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, Representatives: GAGNE of Buckfield, GLYNN of South Portland, JACOBS of Turner, WINSOR of Norway. Sec. 1. Maine Turnpike Authority; functions and responsibilities transferred to the Department of Transportation. Resolved: That not later than January 1, 2000, the Department of Transportation shall submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the light Legislature to:

 Redefine the authority. Redefine the Maine Turnpike
Authority to be a toll collection and revenue bond financing agency of statewide scope that supports the development of the
State's arterial system;

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12 2. Consolidate maintenance. Consolidate maintenance of the turnpike under the Department of Transportation with the cost of
14 that maintenance borne by the Highway Fund;

16 3. Arterial development. Reallocate the savings realized by subsection 2 to the development of the State's arterial 18 network connecting to the turnpike and to expediting interchange construction, particularly in the Lewiston-Auburn region; and

4. Elimination of all side tolls. Present a plan for the 22 expedited elimination of all side tolls on the turnpike.

24 The department shall prepare and fully draft this legislation in cooperation with the Maine Turnpike Authority. 26 The legislation must identify all savings resulting from the consolidation of turnpike maintenance within the Department of 28 Transportation and must amend the Maine Revised Statutes as necessary to implement these goals no later than January 1, 2001. 30

SUMMARY

34 This resolve requires the Department of Transportation and Maine Turnpike Authority to jointly prepare and submit 36 legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature to redefine the authority to be a toll collection and 38 revenue bond financing agency of statewide scope that supports the development of the State's arterial system, consolidate 40 maintenance of the turnpike under the Department of Transportation with the cost of that maintenance borne by the Highway Fund, reallocate the savings realized to the development 42 of the State's arterial network connecting to the turnpike and to 44 expediting interchange construction, particularly in the Lewiston-Auburn region and present a plan for the expedited 46 elimination of all side tolls on the turnpike.

48 The legislation must be submitted by January 1, 2000 and must implement those goals no later than January 1, 2001.