

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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RMS

L.D. 2521

DATE: 3-23-00

(Filing No. H-933)

MAJORITY  
TRANSPORTATION

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1796, L.D. 2521, Bill, "An Act to Promote Safe Mobility for Maine's Aging Population through Education and Community-based, Economically Sustainable Alternative Transportation"

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

'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3307-F is enacted to read:

§3307-F. Innovative Senior Transportation Program

The Innovative Senior Transportation Program, referred to in this section as the "program," is established in the office to support research and development projects designed to advance innovative mobility approaches that will enhance the health and well-being of senior citizens through safe, comfortable, consumer-oriented, efficient and affordable transportation services.

1. Grants. The program may provide grants or contracts for research, technical assistance, project start-up costs and evaluation or for administrative costs, but may not support ongoing service operating subsidies.

2. Administration. The office in consultation with the Department of Human Services and the Department of Transportation shall administer projects supported by the program.

3. Rulemaking. The office shall adopt rules governing the administration of the program. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

chapter 375, subchapter II-A. The director shall give special weight to any assessments of unmet senior transportation needs in developing program priorities.

**Sec. 2. Motor Vehicle Safety Program; established.** The Motor Vehicle Safety Program, to be administered by the Secretary of State, is established to educate the general public, public officials and health and social service personnel about the age-related changes that can affect a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. The program must include a social marketing plan, goals, objectives and an evaluation period to verify its effectiveness.

**Sec. 3. Senior Mobility Pilot Project.** The Senior Mobility Pilot Project, referred to in this section as the "project," is established to support the development of a model consumer-oriented, community-based, economically sustainable transportation service for seniors who limit or stop driving, a model derived from the Federal Transit Administration's senior transit project. The Executive Department, State Planning Office shall use up to \$250,000 appropriated to the Innovative Senior Transportation Program established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 3307-F to fund the project in an area of the State not currently served by an independent transportation network that uses innovative means to transport seniors. Support for the project must include a grant for start-up costs matched by in-kind services or funds and up to \$25,000 for technical support for an existing independent transportation network that uses innovative techniques to transport seniors.

The State Planning Office shall develop a request for proposals in consultation with the Department of Human Services and the Department of Transportation and shall consult those agencies in making any grant decisions. Any community-based transit or other nonprofit organization is eligible to respond to the request for proposals for a grant through this project. Programs funded through the project must include:

1. A transportation program for community-dwelling seniors that includes a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week automobile transport option;

2. An electronic database system that will support routing and dispatching of both paid and volunteer drivers and optional ride sharing;

3. Monthly account statements for seniors;

4. Electronic debits from participating merchants and health care providers;

- 2           5. Price incentives for advance planning and ride sharing;
- 4           6. Provision for payments from adult children and community  
6 organizations;
- 8           7. A plan for economic sustainability, including but not  
10 limited to volunteer recruitment, membership dues, corporate and  
12 business participation, private contributions and community  
14 funding;
- 16           8. Provisions for community-based financial assistance for  
18 low-income seniors; and
- 20           9. Collaboration or coordination with the regional  
22 transportation or full-service provider in the area.

24           At the completion of the project and 3 and 6 years  
26 thereafter, the State Planning Office shall evaluate the results  
28 and economic sustainability of the Senior Mobility Pilot  
30 Project.

32           **Sec. 4. Transportation for priority health care services.** The  
34 Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services  
36 shall make grants of up to \$75,000 to regional transportation or  
full-service providers for innovative programs that address  
priority health care transportation needs for seniors, especially  
in rural areas. The bureau shall use the findings of the report  
required in section 5 to determine the priority medical needs  
that require attention for senior transportation services. The  
bureau, with input from the advisory committee established by the  
Executive Department, State Planning Office under section 5,  
shall assess the results of the grants and recommend the most  
effective way to provide long-term services and funding for  
senior priority health care services.

38           **Sec. 5. Unmet senior transportation needs.** The Executive  
40 Department, State Planning Office shall identify and assess unmet  
42 senior transportation needs in different geographic areas of the  
44 State and, no later than December 15, 2000, shall submit a report  
46 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having  
48 jurisdiction over transportation and human services matters.  
This report must include qualitative and quantitative assessments  
of senior transportation needs, recommended goals and objectives  
for state responses to those needs and identified alternative  
approaches to achieving those goals and objectives through  
existing, new and innovative programs. The State Planning Office  
may use up to \$25,000 from the Innovative Senior Transportation  
Program, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5,  
section 3307-F, to support this work. An advisory committee

established by the State Planning Office must assist with the report and must include a representative from the Department of Transportation, the Department of Human Services and the Department of the Secretary of State and representatives from interests in the field of elderly transportation needs and concerns including regional and full-service transportation providers.

**Sec. 6. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

2000-01

**SECRETARY OF STATE,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE**

**Education**

All Other \$100,000

Provides funds to create a program to educate the general public, public officials and health and social service personnel about the age-related changes that can affect a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not lapse but must be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TOTAL**

\$100,000

**STATE PLANNING OFFICE**

**Senior Mobility Pilot Project -  
State Planning**

All Other \$275,000

Provides funds to establish an Innovative Senior Transportation Program to support research and development of innovative approaches to senior transportation needs and to research transportation needs for senior citizens with priority health care needs. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not lapse but must be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

STATE PLANNING OFFICE  
TOTAL

\$275,000

HUMAN SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF

Senior Mobility Pilot Project -  
Human Services

All Other

\$75,000

Provides funds to contract with regional transportation or full-service providers to transport senior citizens for priority health care services. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not lapse but must be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
TOTAL

\$75,000

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

\$450,000'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

2000-01

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund

\$450,000

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$275,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the State Planning Office to create a transportation service program for nondriving seniors.

This bill also includes a General Fund appropriation of \$100,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Department of the Secretary of State to create an educational program pertaining to age-related changes and the ability to safely drive a motor vehicle.

Finally, this bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$75,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Department of Human Services to establish a program to transport senior citizens for priority health care services.'

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**SUMMARY**

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This amendment replaces the bill. It appropriates funds to the Secretary of State to create a program to educate the general public, public officials and health and social service personnel about the age-related changes that can affect a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

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The amendment also appropriates funds to the Executive Department, State Planning Office to establish the Innovative Senior Transportation Program. It authorizes the development of a consumer-oriented, community-based, economically sustainable transportation service for seniors who limit or stop driving. The amendment also requires a study of unmet senior transportation needs and directs that a report containing findings and recommendations be submitted to the Legislature by December 15, 2000. The amendment appropriates funds to provide transportation services for seniors with priority health care service needs.

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The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.