

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 507

H.P. 386

House of Representatives, February 6, 2001

**An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief from the Cost of Public
Transportation.**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative MARLEY of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BULL of Freeport, CUMMINGS of Portland, DORR of
Camden, DUDLEY of Portland, GERZOFSKY of Brunswick, NORBERT of Portland,
PERRY of Bangor, SIMPSON of Auburn.

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

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Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4209, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. State assistance for transportation providers funded with property taxes from municipalities or counties. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department shall provide funding for operating assistance to any nonprofit transportation provider that is funded with property taxes from municipalities or counties according to the following schedule:

A. For the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2001, an amount equal to at least 20% of the property tax revenues paid to the provider in the previous fiscal year;

B. For the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2002, an amount equal to at least 25% of the property tax revenues paid to the provider in the previous fiscal year; and

C. For fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2003, an amount equal to at least 30% of the property tax revenues paid to the provider in the previous fiscal year.

SUMMARY

This bill reduces the burden on property taxes in communities with public transportation by requiring the State to fund a higher portion of the operating costs of the nonprofit transportation providers. The bill sets the State's minimum contribution for fiscal year 2001-02 at 20% of the property taxes paid to a nonprofit provider in the prior fiscal year. The State's contribution increases by 5% of that amount in each of the next 2 fiscal years until it reaches 30%, where it remains for subsequent fiscal years.