

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 5-15-03

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 208, L.D. 599, Bill, "An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Rail Transportation"

Amend the bill in section 4 in that part designated "~~§7107.~~" in the first paragraph in the 3rd line from the end (page 2, line 32 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "and approval of" and inserting in its place the following: 'by'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 12 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 12. Review of taxes imposed on railroads; legislation. The Joint Standing Committee on Taxation shall review statutory provisions for taxes that apply to companies operating railroads in the State, consider the impact of these provisions and recommend revisions to the tax statutes to improve the viability of railroads operating in the State. The committee shall conduct the review and develop recommendations during interim meetings authorized by the presiding officers of the Legislature. The committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature pertaining to taxation of companies operating railroads in Maine.'

SUMMARY

This amendment removes the requirement that the Commissioner of Transportation seek the approval of the joint standing

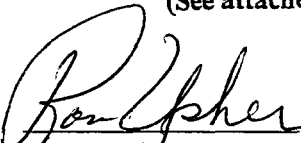
HOUSE AMENDMENT

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 208, L.D. 599

committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
2 transportation matters prior to dismantling state-owned track.
The commissioner would still be required to review the proposed
4 dismantling with the committee.

6 It also amends language regarding the review of tax
provisions applying to railroads. It removes the requirement
8 that the chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
appoint a subcommittee. It specifies that the review and
10 development of recommendations regarding tax laws must take place
during interim meetings authorized by the presiding officers of
12 the Legislature.

14 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

16
18 SPONSORED BY: 
20 (Representative USHER)

22 TOWN: Westbrook

24



**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**

LD 599

**An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Rail
Transportation and Correct an Inconsistency**

LR 1087(04)

Fiscal Note for House Amendment " "

Sponsor: Rep. Usher

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current Costs - Legislative Study

Legislative Study

This amendment requires the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation to review and make recommendations for statutory revisions to tax laws affecting railroads. Assuming this review is conducted within the number of interim committee meetings ultimately authorized for the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation or during the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature, any costs to the Legislature can be absorbed within existing resources.