

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4/7/14

L.D. 1831
(Filing No. H-814)

TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1320, L.D. 1831, Bill, "An Act To Allow Signs for Areas of Local, Regional and Statewide Interest on the Interstate System"

Amend the bill in section 2 in §1912-B in the first paragraph in the 7th line (page 1, line 12 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Rules" and inserting the following: 'Notwithstanding Title 5, section 8071, subsection 3, rules'

Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph C (page 2, lines 2 and 3 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'C. "College or university" means an accredited institution providing postsecondary education that has authorization to confer a degree in accordance with Title 20-A, chapter 409.'

Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 2 in the last line (page 2, line 35 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "standards." the following: 'All determinations regarding whether the placement of interchange guide signs or supplemental guide signs on the interstate system meets the standards contained in this section must be made by the signing agency.'

Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 3 in paragraph C by inserting after subparagraph (1) the following:

'(2) A municipality with a population of at least 2,000 that is located within 5 miles of the exit, that has a highway that is classified as an arterial or a major collector providing a connection from the exit to the municipality's population center or business district if a portion of the interstate system passes through that municipality.'

Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in paragraph C by renumbering the subparagraphs to read consecutively.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 in paragraph A in
2 subparagraph (1) in the first line (page 4, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "5"
3 and inserting the following: '15'

4 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 in paragraph B in the first line
5 (page 4, line 9 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "park" the following: 'or state
6 park'

7 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 in paragraph B in
8 subparagraph (2) in the first line (page 4, line 12 in L.D.) by striking out the following:
9 "100" and inserting the following: '120'

10 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 by striking out all of
11 paragraph C (page 4, lines 14 to 29 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

12 'C. A major recreational area that is a geographic region that is served by a highway
13 that is classified as an arterial or a major collector. The geographic region must:

14 (1) Contain a beach or lake access that is open to the public, allows swimming
15 for all ages, provides parking for more than 100 vehicles, has rest rooms on or
16 adjacent to the beach or lake access and, with respect to a beach, maintains
17 lifeguards on duty during July and August;

18 (2) Contain a ski area open to the public that:

19 (a) Has a minimum vertical drop of 1,000 feet with 40 or more maintained
20 trails; or

21 (b) Is within 10 miles of the exit, has a minimum vertical drop of 200 feet
22 with 10 or more maintained trails and has an aerial lift servicing groomed
23 trails; or

24 (3) Have generated at least 1% of the State's total sales subject to the taxes under
25 Title 36, section 1811 on the value of liquor sold in licensed establishments as
26 defined in Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 15, prepared food and rental of living
27 quarters in any hotel, rooming house or tourist or trailer camp over the previous 3
28 years and must offer recreational opportunities of sufficient traffic significance to
29 warrant signs in accordance with criteria developed by the signing agency;'

30 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 by striking out all of
31 paragraph F (page 4, lines 36 to 40 in L.D.)

32 Amend the bill in section 3 in §1912-C in subsection 5 by relettering the paragraphs
33 to read consecutively.

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This amendment specifies that, while the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter
36 375, subchapter 2-A requires rules that establish a fee to be major substantive rules, rules
37 adopted in accordance with the provisions of the bill are to be routine technical rules.
38 The amendment removes the requirement that a college or university must be a nonprofit
39 institution and further specifies that the institution must be accredited and authorized to
40 confer a degree in accordance with Title 20-A, chapter 409. The amendment clarifies that

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 all determinations regarding compliance as it relates to interchange and supplemental
2 guide signs are to be made by either the Maine Turnpike Authority or the Department of
3 Transportation. The amendment adds to the bill another allowance for a municipality to
4 be included on an interchange guide sign when that municipality is within 5 miles of the
5 exit, has a population of at least 2,000, has any portion of the interstate system pass
6 through it and is accessible from the interstate via highways that are classified as arterials
7 or major collectors. The amendment expands the distance a college or university with an
8 enrollment of at least 300 students may be from the exit to qualify for a supplemental
9 guide sign from 5 miles to 15 miles. The amendment combines the thresholds that must
10 be met in order for a state park or federal park to qualify for a supplemental guide sign
11 and increases the maximum distance a park may be from an exit from 100 miles to 120
12 miles when it has a minimum annual attendance of 75,000 recorded visitors.
13 Additionally, the amendment allows a major municipality or destination that is already
14 identified on an interchange guide sign to qualify for a supplemental guide sign under the
15 standards for a major recreational area. Lastly, the amendment expands the type of ski
16 areas that may qualify for a supplemental guide sign by including a ski area that is within
17 10 miles of an exit, with a minimum vertical drop of 200 feet with 10 or more maintained
18 trails and has an aerial lift servicing groomed trails.

19 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

20 **(See attached)**



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1831

LR 2822(02)

An Act To Allow Signs for Areas of Local, Regional and Statewide Interest on the Interstate System

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

A (H-814)

Committee: Transportation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Highway Fund
Minor cost increase - Maine Turnpike Authority

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill makes changes to the laws governing signs on the interstate and turnpike. Additional costs to the Department of Transportation and Maine Turnpike Authority associated with removing and relocating signs can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.