

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 505

H.P. 344

House of Representatives, February 24, 2015

**An Act To Increase the Funding Level of the Local Road Assistance
Program**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GILLWAY of Searsport.
Cosponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo and
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, CHACE of Durham, EDGECOMB of Fort
Fairfield, EVANGELOS of Friendship, KINNEY of Knox, WHITE of Washburn, Senator:
DAVIS of Piscataquis.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of the next
4 fiscal year; and

5 **Whereas,** certain obligations and expenses incident to the operation of state
6 departments and institutions will become due and payable immediately; and

7 **Whereas,** recent reductions in state payments amid continuous and in many cases
8 drastic increases in local road infrastructure improvement needs have created both a
9 financial emergency and dangerous public safety conditions for local governments and
10 citizens; and

11 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
12 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
13 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
14 therefore,

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

16 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1803-B, sub-§1, ¶D,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 354, Pt. I,
17 §2 and affected by §4, is further amended to read:

18 D. Beginning July 1, ~~2014~~ 2015, the annual funding dedicated for the Local Road
19 Assistance Program must be ~~9%~~ 10% of the Highway Fund allocation to the
20 Department of Transportation. On July 1, ~~2014~~ 2015 and every July 1st thereafter,
21 the Commissioner of Transportation shall administratively adjust the base funding
22 and the reimbursement rates per lane mile proportionately according to revenue
23 available.

24 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
25 legislation takes effect when approved.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill increases the annual funding dedicated for the Local Road Assistance
28 Program from 9% to 10% of the Highway Fund allocation to the Department of
29 Transportation.