

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1106

H.P. 780

House of Representatives, March 21, 2017

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Dedicate All Sales Taxes from All Vehicle Sales and Any
Vehicle-related Sales to the Highway Fund for Roads and Bridge
Capital Improvements**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PARRY of Arundel.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and
Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, GRANT of Gardiner, McLEAN of Gorham,
STEARNS of Guilford, SYLVESTER of Portland, Senators: DION of Cumberland,
SAVIELLO of Franklin, President THIBODEAU of Waldo.

1 **Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two thirds of each branch of the
2 Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine be
3 proposed:

4 **Constitution, Art. IX, §26** is enacted to read:

5 **Section 26. Revenues from motor vehicle sales and use taxes.** Beginning in
6 July 2019, the revenue from the tax imposed on sales of motor vehicles and sales related
7 to motor vehicles must be deposited in the Highway Fund for roads and bridge capital
8 improvements. Beginning in August 2019, and every month thereafter, the State
9 Controller shall transfer to the Highway Fund for roads and bridge capital improvements
10 an amount that is equal to 100% of the revenue from the tax imposed on sales of motor
11 vehicles and sales related to motor vehicles for the previous month. The tax amount must
12 be based on actual sales for that month and may not consider any accruals that may be
13 required by law. The State Tax Assessor shall certify to the State Controller by the 15th
14 day of each month the amounts to be distributed and credited under this section as of the
15 close of the State Controller's records for the previous month.

16 ; and be it further

17 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.**

18 **Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
19 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for
20 holding a statewide election, at a statewide election held in November 2018, to vote upon
21 the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the
22 following question:

23 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to dedicate all sales
24 and use tax revenue from sales of motor vehicles and sales related to
25 motor vehicles to the Highway Fund for roads and bridge capital
26 improvements?"

27 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
28 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding
29 square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and
30 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of
31 State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall
32 review the returns. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the
33 amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment
34 becomes part of the Constitution of Maine on the date of the proclamation; and be it
35 further

36 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:** That the Secretary of State
37 shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies
38 of this resolution necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

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SUMMARY

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This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to dedicate all sales and

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use tax revenue from sales of motor vehicles and sales related to motor vehicles to the

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Highway Fund for roads and bridge capital improvements.