

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1248

H.P. 871

House of Representatives, March 30, 2017

An Act To Improve Public Transportation in Maine

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 McLEAN of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Representatives: FAY of Raymond, FOLEY of Wells, JORGENSEN of
Portland, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, WINSOR of Norway, Senator: VOLK of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Requirements.** The Department of Transportation shall encourage local
3 volunteer driver networks funded in section 2 to work with regional transportation
4 providers to leverage the providers' experience, mobility management systems, vehicles
5 and other resources; seek financial assistance from municipalities and other sources;
6 charge modest fares; and serve all interested residents. The Department of Transportation
7 shall coordinate the pilot purchase of service program funded in section 2 with related
8 efforts of the Statewide Independent Living Council. The Department of Transportation
9 shall distribute the funding for regional transportation providers in section 2 using the
10 same formula as current state public transportation funding is distributed: 50%
11 distributed to urban areas following the United States Department of Transportation,
12 Federal Transit Administration formula and 50% distributed to rural areas following the
13 standards governing the Federal Transit Administration formula grants for rural areas
14 under 49 United States Code, Section 5311, which include the number of square miles in
15 the service area, the population of the service area and the percentage of low-income
16 individuals in the service area.

17 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
18 allocations are made.

19 **TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

20 **Multimodal - Transit 0443**

21 Initiative: Provides funding to support and expand local volunteer driver networks.

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23	HIGHWAY FUND	2017-18	2018-19
24	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
25			
26	HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

27 **Multimodal - Transit 0443**

28 Initiative: Provides funding to create a pilot purchase of service program in a selected
29 region of the State to provide senior citizens and persons with disabilities vouchers to
30 purchase their own transportation services.

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32	HIGHWAY FUND	2017-18	2018-19
33	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
34			
35	HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

36 **Multimodal - Transit 0443**

37 Initiative: Provides funding for regional transportation providers throughout the State to
38 expand their services.

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HIGHWAY FUND	2017-18	2018-19
All Other	\$13,000,000	\$13,000,000
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	<u>\$13,000,000</u>	<u>\$13,000,000</u>
TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2017-18	2018-19
HIGHWAY FUND	\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$14,000,000</u>	<u>\$14,000,000</u>

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SUMMARY

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This bill provides funding to the Department of Transportation to support and expand local volunteer driver networks; to create a pilot purchase of service program in a selected region of the State to provide senior citizens and persons with disabilities vouchers to purchase their own transportation services; and for regional transportation providers throughout the State to expand their services.