



# **129th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative DocumentNo. 136	Legislative Document	No. 1367
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H.P. 989

House of Representatives, March 21, 2019

An Act To Preserve and Protect the State's Rail Corridors

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, CEBRA of Naples, MARTIN of Greene, PERKINS of Oakland, SHEATS of Auburn, TERRY of Gorham, WHITE of Waterville, Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

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

2 Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §7109 is enacted to read:

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### 3 §7109. Preservation and protection of rail corridors

<u>Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Transportation shall preserve and</u>
protect the State's rail corridors for future railroad use and shall maintain all rail corridors
in a condition that allows for their resuming railroad service.

A rail corridor may not be converted into or operated as a trail, used as a pathway or
space for walking or biking, used for any other form of nonmotorized travel or recreation
or used as a bus line without first being evaluated for passenger railroad service.

#### SUMMARY

11 This bill directs the Department of Transportation to preserve and protect the rail 12 corridors of the State for future railroad use and maintain all rail corridors in a condition 13 that allows for their resuming railroad service.

The bill prohibits a rail corridor from being converted into or operated as a trail, used as a pathway or space for walking or biking, used for any other form of nonmotorized travel or recreation or used as a bus line without first being evaluated for passenger railroad service.