

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/1/24

(Filing No. S-183)

**TRANSPORTATION**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
130TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 95, L.D. 227, "Resolve, To Conduct a Feasibility Study for Extending Passenger Rail Service from Brunswick through Augusta and Waterville to Bangor"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To Conduct a Transit Propensity Study for Communities between Portland and Bangor'**

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

**Sec. 1. Transit propensity study. Resolved:** That, if the Department of Transportation receives funding in accordance with section 2, the department shall conduct a transit propensity study to assess the demand and viability for new or enhanced transit service, including passenger rail, between the communities of Portland and Bangor. The study must include a review of relevant traffic counts, most recent data from the United States Census Bureau, population and employment data, all reasonably feasible corridors of service and primary trip generators that could significantly affect demand. The department shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters no later than January 1, 2023. The report must include estimates of the propensity of transit service demand, an estimated range of incremental growth in transit service and cost estimates of capital required for operating new or enhanced transit service. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters may submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the findings provided in the department's report.

**Sec. 2. Municipal partnership. Resolved:** That the Department of Transportation shall seek funding contributions to fully fund the costs of the study under section 1. The total costs of the study must be determined by the department. No funds may be collected by or transferred to the department for the purpose of conducting the study unless the department receives from municipalities for which new or enhanced transit service will be assessed as part of the study commitments for no less than 25% of the overall

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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costs of the study. The department may enter into agreements with municipalities for the municipalities to pay their portions to fund the study in a single installment or in multiple installments. If municipalities have not fulfilled their commitment to provide 25% of the overall costs of the study by the dates agreed upon with the department, the department may discontinue the study. If the department discontinues the study, any remaining funds received from municipalities must be returned to the municipalities and any remaining department funds for the study must be returned to the accounts from which they were received.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Multimodal - Passenger Rail Z139**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for a transit propensity study to assess the demand and desire for transit, including but not limited to passenger rail, between the communities of Portland and Bangor.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other	2021-22 \$150,000	2022-23 \$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the resolve.

1. It directs the Department of Transportation to conduct a transit propensity study, if sufficient funding is received, to assess the demand and viability for new or enhanced transit service, including passenger rail, between the communities of Portland and Bangor.

2. It requires the department to submit a report based on its study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters by January 1, 2023.

3. It allows the joint standing committee to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the findings provided in the department's report.

4. It provides that no funds may be collected by or transferred to the department for the purpose of conducting the study unless the department receives commitments for no less than 25% of the overall costs of the study from municipalities for which new or enhanced transit will be assessed as part of the study.

5. It provides that, if the municipalities have not fulfilled their commitment to provide 25% of the overall costs of the study by the dates agreed upon with the department, the department is authorized to discontinue the study and any remaining municipal funds must be returned to the relevant municipalities and any remaining department funds must be returned to the accounts from which they were received.

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 95, L.D. 227 (S-183)

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6. It provides an updated appropriations and allocations section to reflect the costs of the transit propensity study.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 227

LR 781(02)

Resolve, To Conduct a Feasibility Study for Extending Passenger Rail Service from Brunswick through Augusta and Waterville to Bangor

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-183)

Committee: Transportation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

## Fiscal Note

Appropriations/Allocations	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the Department of Transportation of \$150,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 for a transit propensity study to assess the demand and desire for transit, including but not limited to passenger rail, between the communities of Portland and Bangor.

The bill also requires that 25% of the cost of the study be provided by municipalities for which new or enhanced transit will be evaluated. If this goal is not met, the department is not authorized to continue the study and any funds collected from municipalities will be returned.