

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Transmitted by Director of Legislative Research pursuant to joint order.

---

---

N I N E T Y - F I F T H    L E G I S L A T U R E

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 746**

H. P. 1115

House of Representatives, February 15, 1951.

On motion of Mr. Hall of Calais reference reconsidered. Referred to Committee on Highways. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hall of Calais.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

---

**RESOLVE, Creating a Legislative Interim Committee to Implement the  
Engineering and Economic Study of "Maine Highway Needs."**

---

**Interim legislative committee to implement highway needs. Resolved:** That a legislative interim committee be, and is hereby, created to consist of 3 members of the senate, to be appointed by the president of the senate, 3 members of the house, to be appointed by the speaker of the house, and 3 members representing highway user groups, to be appointed by the governor; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the committee shall have full power and authority, and it shall be its duty to ascertain, study and analyze all facts and matters pertaining to a proper classification of all highways and streets into the various road systems; that such classification shall be in accordance with the traffic carried and the benefits rendered; and that the administrative responsibility for the several systems shall correspond with these classifications; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the committee cause to be developed a priority schedule of improvements on the selected state highway system in order to assure

orderly development of the systems in accordance with needs, and shall recommend appropriate legislation to provide for re-examination of such schedule at reasonable intervals in order that construction progress may keep abreast with changing conditions and requirements; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the committee shall use such studies of traffic movement as the department has already made and shall cause such further studies to be made in order to determine the information and data essential to accomplish the classification of highways and streets, and the priority of construction above mentioned and to secure the fullest possible utilization of existing highways and streets; and it is further

**Resolved:** That the state highway commission is hereby authorized and directed, with the advice of the committee, to employ consultants experienced in the fields of highway planning and highway administration for the purpose of studying and making recommendations to the committee and the commission concerning above mentioned priority of construction, administrative organization of the department, and the maintenance program of the state highway department, and that the studies and recommendations of said consultants shall be included with the committee's final report, and shall be made public at the time of filing the committee's final report; and that such study and final report shall be filed with the governor and legislature and made public at least 90 days prior to the convening of the next regular session of the legislature; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the said committee shall hold public hearings within the state from time to time, as its work progresses or circumstances make it advisable, and shall give timely publicity as to the time and places of such hearings; that in making studies, examinations, investigations and recommendations requiring engineering, clerical and stenographic services, the committee shall with the consent of the state highway department utilize such employees and facilities of that department, as may be necessary; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the committee has the following additional powers and duties: to select a chairman and a vice-chairman from its membership; to cooperate with and secure the cooperation of county, municipal and other local officials in investigating any matter within the framework of this resolve; to require and secure the full cooperation of the state highway department and any and all other state officials who are charged with duties and responsibilities which in any way relate to the administration, construction, maintenance, operation, use and financing of the roads and streets of the state; and to do any and all other things necessary or convenient to en-

able it fully and adequately to exercise its powers, perform its duties and accomplish the objects and purposes of this resolve; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the members of the said committee shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee but shall be paid their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties and that such costs and expenses of the committee and its employees, and any charges or claims the committee may incur under this resolve shall be charged to the general highway fund, or funds now or which may become available to the state highway department and shall be disbursed after certification by the chairman of the committee. No part of said sum shall be used for charges, expenses or claims incurred or expended for traveling, living or other expenses outside the limits of the state.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

The present national emergency demands early and adequate improvement of highway transportation on roads that are essential for the movement of supplies and material required in national defense and for supporting civilian economy. The state has before it an engineering and economic study prepared by its state highway commission entitled "Maine Highway Needs," released March 1, 1949, and made pursuant to chapter 151 of the resolves of 1947. Further and additional information and data concerning a proper classification of all highways and streets, and the necessary priority of improvement thereon, are essential to provide road needs with a maximum of efficiency, economy and expedition, and in order to insure that proper emphasis be given to improvement of those roads of greatest traffic importance.