

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1032

H. P. 728

House of Representatives, February 27, 1957

Referred to the Committee on Taxation, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Allen of Chelsea.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

MEMORIAL

**To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America in Congress Assembled**

Joint Resolution Memorializing Congress to Oppose Further Increases in Federal Gasoline Tax.

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Maine in the Ninety-eighth Legislative Session assembled, most respectfully present and petition your Honorable Body as follows:

Whereas, the construction and maintenance of an adequate highway system has always been primarily the responsibility of the several states, and

Whereas, the Federal Government has contributed to the cost of highways from general tax sources because of its obligation to the national defense, the general welfare, delivery of the mail, and interstate commerce, and

Whereas, the federal gasoline tax has never been considered a highway use tax but a temporary tax for the general support of the Government during a period of emergency, and

Whereas, the Congress in the Federal Highway Act of 1956 not only increased the federal gasoline tax but for the first time dedicated the revenues from the gasoline tax to the construction of the interstate highway system, and

Whereas, the imposition of a federal tax on gasoline not only invades a field of taxation traditionally reserved to the states but in direct proportion to the rate of the federal tax, effectively reduces the ability of the states to utilize this

source to raise money for their own highway purposes and to match federal grants, and

Whereas, additional federal taxes would lead to greater federal participation in state highway activities tending toward eventual domination of local highway authorities by the Federal Government, now therefore be it

Resolved: By the Senate and House of Representatives of the 98th Maine Legislature that it hereby records itself as opposed to any further increase in the federal gasoline tax and respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to give serious consideration to its petition, and be it further

Resolved: That a copy of this Memorial, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of State, by mail, to the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress and to the members of the said Senate and House of Representatives from this State.