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Date: (Filing No. H-)

TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 813, L.D. 1150, “Resolve, To Establish the Road Usage Charge Task Force”

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

'Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform'

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

'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 11 members as follows:

1. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, at least one of whom is from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Senate, including at least one member of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and one member of either the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs or the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation;

2. Seven members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at least 3 of whom are from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the House, including at least one member of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and one member of either the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs or the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation; and

3. The Commissioner of Transportation, or the commissioner's designee; and be it further

Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved: That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission. The first-named Senate member must be from the Joint Standing

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Committee on Transportation and the first-named House member must be from the Joint
2 Standing Committee on Transportation; and be it further

3 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
4 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
5 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
6 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
7 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
8 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
9 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
10 for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

11 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study how to reform and
12 adequately supplement funding for the State's transportation infrastructure to promote
13 equity, sustainability and predictability in a manner that allows the State to responsibly
14 provide a safe and reliable state transportation system. The study must focus on funding
15 the state highway and bridge system, but must also consider capital funding of
16 multimodal infrastructure. The commission shall:

17 1. Determine funding levels necessary to achieve the highway and bridge capital
18 goals set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 73, subsection 7,
19 paragraphs A to D, including anticipated shortfalls for the next 10 years;

20 2. Identify mechanisms that will increase the predictability of general obligation
21 bonding levels for capital planning at the Department of Transportation for the state
22 highway and bridge system and multimodal infrastructure for the next 10 years;

23 3. Identify mechanisms to address the erosion of Highway Fund receipts and the
24 rising inequity caused by higher automobile fuel efficiency and alternative fuel vehicles,
25 such as adding a registration fee surcharge on hybrid, electric or other alternative fuel
26 passenger automobiles;

27 4. Consider a voluntary pilot program to assess the potential for mileage-based
28 revenue collection as an alternative to the gas tax system;

29 5. Identify methods to more equitably share the costs of the highway system between
30 residents of this State and nonresidents, including exploring the feasibility of reducing
31 year-round baseline gasoline tax rates and adding a seasonal gasoline tax surcharge;

32 6. Consider new highway tolling options;

33 7. Consider adding a wholesale fuel tax component, including options that would
34 reduce baseline per gallon fuel tax rates;

35 8. Consider adjusting fuel tax rates, including options that can be implemented or
36 eliminated as fuel prices rise due to market forces or increases in the federal fuel tax
37 rates;

38 9. Consider dedicating a portion of sale tax receipts from transportation-related sales
39 to transportation;

40 10. Evaluate the likelihood of possible future funds being dedicated to transportation
41 from revenues from potential additional casinos in the State; and

1 11. Invite knowledgeable stakeholders to provide written and oral comments on draft
2 recommendations of the commission. Knowledgeable stakeholders must include
3 representatives from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Maine, the
4 Maine section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Associated General
5 Contractors of Maine, the Maine Automobile Dealers Association, the Maine Better
6 Transportation Association, the Maine State Chamber of Commerce, the Mayors'
7 Coalition on Jobs and Economic Development, the Maine Motor Transport Association,
8 the Maine Municipal Association, the Maine Service Center Coalition, the Maine
9 Tourism Association and the Maine Turnpike Authority.

10 The commission may meet up to 6 times. At least 3 meetings must allow public
11 comment and be held at different locations in the State to allow input from residents of
12 several regions in the State; and be it further

13 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
14 necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

15 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 6, 2017, the commission
16 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
17 legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The Joint Standing
18 Committee on Transportation may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of
19 the 128th Legislature; and be it further

20 **Sec. 8. Funding. Resolved:** That the costs of the study under section 5 must be
21 provided from the Highway Fund; and be it further

22 **Sec. 9. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
23 appropriations and allocations are made.

24 **LEGISLATURE**

25 **Study Commissions - Funding 0444**

26 Initiative: Provides a one-time allocation for the costs of Legislators serving as members
27 of the Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform.

28	HIGHWAY FUND	2017-18	2018-19
29	Personal Services	\$2,200	\$0
30	All Other	\$3,050	\$0
31			
32	HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	<u>\$5,250</u>	<u>\$0</u>

33 ' ,

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This amendment, which is the majority report, strikes and replaces the resolve. The
36 amendment establishes the Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform. The
37 commission is required to study how to reform and adequately supplement funding for
38 the State's transportation infrastructure to promote equity, sustainability and predictability
39 in a manner that allows the State to responsibly provide a safe and reliable transportation

1 system. The commission is required to report its findings and recommendations,
2 including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no
3 later than December 6, 2017. The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation may
4 submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature relating to the
5 subject matter of the report. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations
6 section.

7 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

8 **(See attached)**