



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 797

H.P. 577

House of Representatives, March 2, 2017

An Act To Fund Railroad Infrastructure and Operations

Reference to the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland and
Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, FARNSWORTH of
Portland, HICKMAN of Winthrop, McLEAN of Gorham, TIPPING of Orono, Senator:
COLLINS of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4210-B, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

3 **8. Revenue from sales tax on marijuana.** Notwithstanding Title 36, section 1817,
4 subsection 7, beginning October 1, 2017, the State Controller shall transfer to the
5 Multimodal Transportation Fund an amount, as certified by the State Tax Assessor, that is
6 equivalent to 20% of the revenue from the tax imposed on the sale of retail marijuana and
7 retail marijuana products pursuant to Title 36, section 1817 for the last 6 months of the
8 prior fiscal year. Beginning July 1, 2018 and every July 1st thereafter, the State
9 Controller shall transfer to the Multimodal Transportation Fund an amount, as certified
10 by the State Tax Assessor, that is equivalent to 20% of the revenue from the tax imposed
11 on the sale of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products pursuant to Title 36, section
12 1817 for the first 6 months of the prior fiscal year. The tax amount must be based on
13 actual sales for that fiscal year and may not consider any accruals that may be required by
14 law. Amounts transferred to the Multimodal Transportation Fund under this subsection
15 must be used for the purposes of purchasing, operating, maintaining, improving,
16 repairing, constructing and managing the assets of multimodal forms of transportation,
17 limited to passenger marine, road surface and passenger rail transit, of the State,
18 municipalities and multimodal providers supporting passenger rail operations. Priority
19 investment must be targeted to those railroad corridors that could support passenger and
20 freight operations and enhance the movement of agricultural products.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill requires 20% of revenue from the sales tax on retail marijuana and retail
23 marijuana products to be transferred to the Multimodal Transportation Fund to be used
24 for the multimodal forms of transportation, limited to passenger marine, road surface and
25 passenger rail transit, of the State, municipalities and multimodal providers supporting
26 passenger rail operations. Priority investment must be targeted to those railroad corridors
27 that could support passenger and freight operations and enhance the movement of
28 agricultural products.