



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 991

S.P. 317

In Senate, March 10, 2021

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Complete a Feasibility Analysis To Initiate a Commuter and Passenger Train Service between Portland and the Lewiston and Auburn Area**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor and  
Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, LIBBY of Androscoggin,  
Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, COLLINGS of Portland,  
CRAVEN of Lewiston, LOOKNER of Portland.

1           **Sec. 1. Feasibility analysis for passenger rail service from Portland to**  
2 **Lewiston. Resolved:** That the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the  
3 Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority and interested municipalities and  
4 planning organizations, shall complete a feasibility analysis in accordance with the United  
5 States Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration "New Starts" federal  
6 funding program requirements to implement passenger rail service from the Portland Ocean  
7 Gateway Pier to downtown Lewiston. The study must identify the state-owned railroad  
8 corridor between Portland and Auburn and into Lewiston as the locally preferred  
9 alternative route for analysis. The report must include:

- 10           1. Identification of municipal station locations and coordination with existing  
11 passenger rail services and with municipality transportation planning agencies;  
12           2. An analysis of market demand and potential economic benefits;  
13           3. A detailed passenger service development plan;  
14           4. An inventory of infrastructure and necessary capital investment, including  
15 electrification;  
16           5. An evaluation of potential financial mechanisms and sources of funds;  
17           6. An environmental impact analysis to meet "New Starts" federal funding program  
18 requirements for the proposed service, including station locations; and  
19           7. An analysis of the potential for service between Boston and both Lewiston and  
20 Montreal, Province of Quebec, Canada.

21           The study must be completed in a timely manner and meet 2021 federal infrastructure  
22 program requirements.

23           **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following  
24 appropriations and allocations are made.

25 **TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

26 **Multimodal – Passenger Rail**

27 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to complete a feasibility analysis to implement  
28 passenger rail service from the Portland Ocean Gateway Pier to downtown Lewiston.

29 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
30 All Other	\$250,000	\$0
31		
32 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$250,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

33  
34 **SUMMARY**

35           This resolve directs the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the  
36 Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority and interested municipalities and  
37 planning organizations, to complete a feasibility analysis to implement passenger rail  
38 service from Portland to downtown Lewiston. It appropriates one-time funds of \$250,000  
39 for the feasibility analysis.