



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1644

S.P. 652

In Senate, April 15, 2025

An Act to Require Train Axle Bearing Sensors to Be Installed on Passenger Rail Lines

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on April 11, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RAFFERTY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Portland and
Senator: INGWERSEN of York, Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, MITCHELL of
Cumberland, SAYRE of Kennebunk.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §7016** is enacted to read:

3 **§7016. Hotbox detectors**

4 Beginning January 1, 2027, a hotbox detector must be installed every 20 miles on a
5 railroad line that operates in the State on which a passenger train operates. For purposes
6 of this section, "hotbox detector" means a system of sensors that monitor and identify
7 overheated axle bearings of a train using an infrared thermal detection system as wheelsets
8 pass over the detector.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill requires the installation of a hotbox detector every 20 miles on a railroad line
11 that operates in the State on which a passenger train operates, beginning January 1, 2027.