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Date: (Filing No. S-)

TRANSPORTATION

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 46, L.D. 29, “Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Lower Road Rail Use Advisory Council”

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

'Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Lower Road Rail Use Advisory Council and the Calais Branch Rail Use Advisory Council'

Amend the resolve in the preamble by inserting after the 5th paragraph the following:

'Whereas, the Department of Transportation received letters of support from communities along the section of the state-owned rail corridor known as the Calais Branch requesting the formation of a rail corridor use advisory council; and

Whereas, the Calais Branch Rail Use Advisory Council convened and met over a period of 8 months in 2024; and

Whereas, 10 of the 11 Calais Branch Rail Use Advisory Council members, with one member abstaining, voted to recommend the interim conversion of the existing railroad track to a multi-use trail; and'

Amend the resolve by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Calais Branch rail trail recommendation. Resolved: That, consistent with the majority recommendation of the Calais Branch Rail Use Advisory Council and pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 7107, the Department of Transportation shall remove 12.26 miles of state-owned inactive existing railroad track along the section known as the Calais Branch from the Route 214 intersection in Ayers Junction in the Town of Pembroke to Route 1 in the City of Calais and replace the track with a multi-use trail on the existing rail bed. The completed multi-use trail is interim in nature, and the project to create the multi-use trail is subject to available funding resources, permitting and municipal agreements.'

1 Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
2 section number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, adds a provision to the
5 bill directing the Department of Transportation, subject to available funding resources,
6 permitting and municipal agreements, to remove state-owned inactive existing railroad
7 track along the section known as the Calais Branch from the Route 214 intersection in
8 Ayers Junction in the Town of Pembroke to Route 1 in the City of Calais and to replace the
9 track with an interim multi-use trail on the existing rail bed.

10 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

11 **(See attached)**