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Date:

(Filing No. H-)

TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 382, L.D. 605, “An Act to Enhance Commuter-oriented Rail Service”

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

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Study Impediments to Passenger Rail Operation Arising from Liability Insurance'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Study group. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall convene a study group, referred to in this resolve as "the study group," including representatives of the department and other interested parties as determined and appointed by the commissioner to examine impediments to passenger rail operation arising from liability insurance.

- 1. Duties.** The study group shall examine the following:
 - A. The degree to which current laws related to liability insurance present a barrier to Class III short line rail operators and other passenger rail operators from operating in this State;
 - B. The degree to which this State is an outlier regarding passenger rail liability insurance in comparison to other states;
 - C. Alternative methods of requiring and providing for liability insurance for passenger rail in other states;
 - D. The requirements of liability insurance in this State for other common carriers, including bus and ferry services;
 - E. The feasibility of alternative methods to require and provide liability insurance for passenger rail in this State, including changes to liability insurance, adopting and regulating an owner-controlled insurance program or a department-administered insurance program for passenger rail operation; and

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1 F. The potential effects on passenger rail operation that changes to liability insurance
2 laws would have in this State.

3 **2. Report.** No later than February 1, 2024, the department shall report the findings and
4 recommendations of the study group, including any proposed legislation, to the Joint
5 Standing Committee on Transportation.'

6 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
7 number to read consecutively.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. It directs the
10 Department of Transportation to convene a study group to examine impediments to
11 passenger rail operation arising from liability insurance. No later than February 1, 2024,
12 the department must report the findings and recommendations of the study group, including
13 any proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

14 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

15 **(See attached)**