



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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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

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

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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.