

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AUGUSTA, MAINEOFFICE OF
THE GOVERNORNO. 11FY 83/84
DATE June 1, 1984AN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF A RAIL TRANSPORTATION POLICY FOR THE STATE OF MAINE.

WHEREAS, the rail system of the State of Maine constitutes one of the major transportation modes relied upon by existing Maine industries for the distribution of manufactured products and goods and materials consumed in the operation of such industries; and

WHEREAS, the present and future transportation needs of such industries as well as those industries which may be located as a result of the state economic development efforts will require a certain level of rail transportation service; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and other sources have indicated that a number of the lines that make up the rail transportation network of this State are the subject of study as to the feasibility of future operations by the owning railroads; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that a number of these lines will be the subject of petitions for abandonment within the next few years, and it is deemed necessary and prudent that the State have in place a policy to respond to such actions in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, such responses should be made within the framework of a State Policy for the future of rail transportation; and

WHEREAS, the development of such a policy shall be undertaken as soon as possible, and recommendations submitted to this Office and the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature in January, 1985;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish The Governor's Advisory Committee for the Development of a Rail Transportation Policy for the State of Maine.

MEMBERSHIP

Individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee shall be designated by the Governor and shall include a representative of the paper industry, the Chairmen of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation of the 111th Legislature, a representative of the Maine Municipal Association, a representative with experience in so-called shortline rail operations, a rail management person representing the larger carriers, a representative of the food processing industry, a representative of the Maine Poultry Association, a representative of the Maine potato industry, a representative of railroad labor, and the Commissioner of Transportation. The Commissioner of Transportation shall serve as Chairman and he shall call the first meeting.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Advisory Committee shall be: To develop and recommend State policy for future rail transportation that will adequately meet the present and future needs of Maine Industry and the State's economy. Such policy shall provide guidance to the Department of Transportation and the State Government in general in responding to anticipated rail line abandonments.

In developing such recommendations, consideration shall be given to:

1. The transportation needs of current and prospective rail transportation users, and the general role that rail transportation may be expected to play in the future economic development of the State.
2. Alternative means of transportation through the State generally and, in particular, areas where abandonments may occur.
3. The impact upon future economic development and existing shippers in the area affected by abandonment.
4. The impact upon railway labor of rail consolidations and abandonments.
5. The potential for the development of shortline rail services to replace service abandonment by existing carriers.
6. The views of the general public as to the present and future value of rail transportation service to the State of Maine.

ADMINISTRATION

The Governor's Advisory Committee for the Development of a Rail Transportation Policy for the State of Maine shall serve without compensation and shall receive staff support from the Department of Transportation. The Commissioner of Transportation shall receive additional support as he deems necessary from the Office of Energy Resources, the State Planning Office and the State Development Office.


JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
Governor