

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

**JULY 1993**

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

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**LD 143**      **An Act to Establish Physical Qualifications for Insulin-controlled Diabetics and People with Visual Impairments to Operate Commercial Motor Vehicles**      **ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BARTH	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed standards of physical qualifications for a commercial driver's license for individuals having visual problems in one eye and for insulin-controlled diabetics.

**LD 174**      **An Act Concerning Truck Weight Limits**      **ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CATHCART	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have lowered the maximum allowable truck weight to 80,000 pounds on Maine roads.

**LD 209**      **An Act to Allow Rental Vehicles to be Used on a Temporary Basis by Limousine Companies**      **ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
LINDAHL	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed limousine companies to rent vehicles on a temporary basis and hire those vehicles out provided that the limousine company had insurance for those vehicles appropriate to their use.

**LD 264**      **An Act Regarding Motorized Wheelchairs**      **PUBLIC 57**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
ROTONDI	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-52
	OTP-AM      MIN	H-91      ROTONDI

**SUMMARY**

This bill repeals the requirement for a special registration permit for operation of a motorized invalid chair.

The committee amendment (H-52) is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. This amendment excludes motorized wheelchairs from the definition of motor vehicle and creates a definition of pedestrian that includes wheelchair operators.

The House amendment (H-91) clarifies the scope of the exemption for wheelchairs in the definition of "pedestrian."

The majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation excluded motorized wheelchairs from the definition of motor vehicle and created a definition of pedestrian that included wheelchair

operators. It also would have required motorized wheelchairs to display reflectors, reflective strips or fluorescent flags in the nighttime.

**LD 269      An Act to Create A Special License Plate for Blue Knights      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MURPHY CARPENTER	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed members of the Maine Chapter of the Blue Knights organization to have a special license plate.

**LD 307      An Act Regarding Diesel Truck Registration      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
AULT GOULD R R	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required the Secretary of State to replace the fuel use identification decal with a fuel use identification stamp for vehicles registered in the State. The stamp would have been affixed to the vehicle registration and would have expired with the registration. The decal system would have remained in effect for vehicles registered in another state.

**LD 324      An Act to Clarify the Rights of Water Utilities with      CARRIED OVER**  
**Respect to Water Lines Passing in or through Railroad**  
**Rights-of-way**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
FARNSWORTH		

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed that public water utilities retain rights to use and maintain water utility facilities running in or through railroad lines when those lines are purchased by the Department of Transportation. This bill is designed to address those situations in which the department has acquired railroad lines and then charged water utilities fees for licenses to use and maintain existing water lines. This bill was carried over to study the rights of utilities with regard to railroad rights-of-way and means of conflict resolution.

**LD 331      An Act to Make Available Special Handicap      ONTP**  
**Veteran License Plates and Vanity Plates With a Veteran**  
**Designation**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MURPHY	ONTP	