

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

Sen. William B. O'Gara, Chair

Sen. John T. Jenkins

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

Rep. Joseph D. Driscoll, Chair

Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard

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Rep. Steven M. Joyce

Rep. Christine R. Savage

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Staff:

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

LD 1986**Resolve, to Name the Newly Constructed Route 2 Palmyra Bridge
in Memory of Trooper Thomas J. Merry****RESOLVE 88
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEDMAN MITCHELL B	OTP	H-785 STEDMAN

LD 1986 proposed to name the newly constructed bridge on Route 2 in Palmyra in memory of Maine State Trooper Thomas Merry.

House Amendment "A" (H-785) proposed to add the middle initial in the name of Maine State Trooper Thomas J. Merry.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 88 names the newly constructed bridge on Route 2 in Palmyra in memory of Maine State Trooper Thomas J. Merry. Chapter 88 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 25, 1998.

LD 2013**An Act to Broaden the Farm Stand Exemption****PUBLIC 635**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FERGUSON	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-515

LD 2013 proposed to expand by one month the period during which a grower of fresh fruit and vegetables may erect signs along public ways advertising the fresh fruit and vegetables available at the grower's farm. The bill proposed the period run from May 15th to November 1st. The bill also proposed to allow owners or operators of greenhouses to erect signs along public ways during the period from February 1st to December 25th.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-515) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to allow a producer of an agricultural product to erect signs on private property between May 1st and December 31st that advertise products that are grown, produced and sold on the premises of the producer. If a producer's operation fronted a state highway, the producer could not erect a sign on that state highway. The producer would be limited to 4 signs and the signs would have to be located within 5 miles of the producer's location. The signs would have to be directional in nature and advertise only the agricultural products available for immediate purchase. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 635 allows a producer of an agricultural product to erect signs on private property between May 1st and December 31st that advertise products that are grown, produced and sold on the premises of the producer. If a producer's operation fronts a state highway, the producer may not erect a sign on that state highway. The producer is limited to 4 signs and the signs must be located within 5 miles of the producer's location. The signs must be directional in nature and advertise only the agricultural products available for immediate purchase.