

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

JULY 1999

**MEMBERS:**

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*Sen. Judy Paradis*

*Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy*

*Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr., Chair*

*Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard*

*Rep. Charles D. Fisher*

*Rep. Gary J. Wheeler*

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees**  
**August 1999**

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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](http://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:

*CARRIED OVER*.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session  
*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  
*ENACTMENT FAILED*..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died  
*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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

**LD 52****An Act to Expand the Number of Lights Firefighters May Use on Their Motor Vehicles****DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

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

LD 52 proposed to allow an active member of a municipal or volunteer fire department, when authorized, to use any type of flashing signal light on a vehicle when en route to or at the scene of a fire or other emergency.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-84)** was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The amendment proposed to repeal limitations on the size and number of flashing red signal lights that may be displayed on vehicles used by firefighters and to allow those lights to be mounted anywhere on the vehicle below the top of the vehicle's windshield. The amendment also proposed to prohibit the lights from being located in a manner that impairs the vision of an operator of another motor vehicle. This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 53****Resolve, Requiring the State to Reimburse Towns for the Construction of Salt and Sand Storage Facilities****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RINES	ONTP	

LD 53 proposed to require the State to reimburse municipalities, by December 31, 1999, the State's share of the costs of salt and sand storage facilities that were constructed by municipalities and approved by the Department of Transportation prior to January 1, 1999. Although this bill was not passed, money for paying for all state and municipal priority 1 and 2 salt and sand storage facilities was included in the Part II Highway Budget. (See LD 957)

**LD 61****An Act to Decriminalize Failure to Register a Motor Vehicle****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AHEARNE	ONTP	

LD 61 proposed to decriminalize failure to register a motor vehicle by removing the risk of jail time, but leave the maximum forfeiture that may be imposed at \$1,000.

**LD 70****An Act to Enact the Railroad Trespass Prevention Act****PUBLIC 318**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LINDAHL O'GARA	OTP-AM	H-199

LD 70 proposed to create a Railroad Trespass Prevention Act that made it illegal to trespass on railroad property without the railroad's consent and proposed a fine of not more than \$100 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days for such trespass. The bill also proposed to make it illegal to be a stowaway and proposed a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 6 months for being a stowaway.