

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

July 2003

Members:

*Sen. Pamela Henderson Hatch, Chair
Sen. Dennis S. Damon
Sen. Christine R. Savage*

Rep. Ronld E. Usher, Chair

Rep. Boyd P. Marley

Rep. Rosaire "Ross" Paradis, Jr.

Rep. Lisa T. Marrache

Rep. Sonya G. Sampson

Rep. Terrence P. McKenney

Rep. Ronald F. Collins

Rep. Deborah K. McNeil

Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey

Rep. William P. Browne

Staff:

Nicole A. Dube, Legislative Analyst

Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

Lock Kiermaier, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207) 287-1670

Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 832

An Act Clarifying State Financial Responsibility over State and State Aid Highways

ONTP

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

LD 832 proposed to clarify that all costs of the construction, maintenance and repair of state or state aid highways are the responsibility of the Department of Transportation and may not be passed on to a local unit of government except with the agreement of the legislative body of that local unit.

LD 836

An Act To Prevent Distracted Driving

ONTP

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

LD 836 proposed to prohibit a person from driving while distracted. The bill proposed to define driving while distracted as including, but not limited to, driving while using a cellular telephone, eating, reading or grooming. As proposed, a law enforcement officer could enforce this prohibition only if the officer had detained the operator of the motor vehicle for a violation of another law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-287), the committee majority report, proposed to replace the bill and proposed to provide definitions of "distracted driving" and "mobile telephone." The amendment also proposed to establish certain exceptions from the definition of "distracted driving." It also proposed to preempt municipal ordinances relating to the use of mobile telephones. The majority report was not adopted. (Not adopted)

LD 837

An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Safety Zone Laws

PUBLIC 97

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BULL DAMON	OTP-AM	H-102

LD 837 proposed to add to the safety requirements governing drivers approaching or passing a stationary authorized emergency vehicle that is using an emergency light. It also proposed to make a violation of this provision a Class E crime.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-102) proposed to replace the bill and to institute a minimum fine of \$250 for failure to comply with safety requirements governing drivers approaching or passing a stationary authorized emergency vehicle that is using an emergency light.