

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*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:**

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# 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](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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 988**

### **An Act To Increase Penalties for Passing a Stopped School Bus**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROTUNDO	ONTP MAJ	
CRAVEN	OTP MIN	

LD 988 proposed to increase the penalties for passing a stopped school bus. The bill proposed to impose a \$250 minimum fine and a 30-day license suspension for the first offense and a \$250 minimum fine and a mandatory 60-day license suspension for a second offense occurring within three years of the first offense.

**LD 991**

### **An Act To Equalize Fuel Taxes on Vehicles Used for Personal Travel**

**ONTP**

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

LD 991 proposed to provide for diesel automobiles and pickup trucks less than 6,000 pounds to pay the gas tax imposed on other automobiles rather than the special fuel tax paid by commercial vehicles.

**LD 998**

### **An Act Regarding Motor Vehicle Registration and Inspection Dates**

**ONTP**

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

LD 998 proposed to require the registration and inspection of a vehicle to expire on the last day of the birth month of the person registering the vehicle.

**LD 1015**

### **An Act To Accommodate the Unique Circumstances Affecting Regional Transportation Providers in the Administration of Car Seat Laws**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1015, which was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to amend Public Law 2001, chapter 585 pertaining to the administration of child safety seat laws. The bill proposed to remove the potential under current law for children to be denied access to state-contracted transportation services due to the inability of service providers to comply with the child safety seat requirements. The bill also proposed to address the unique requirements of state-contracted transportation providers that may cause the use of an approved car seat to be impractical and potentially harmful. The bill further proposed to allow time frames for vehicle replacement, waivers for clients with special needs and access to financing to ensure the availability of appropriate vehicles and car seats.