

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

August 2005

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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:

- 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
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
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 June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 528 **An Act To Exempt Insurers of Commercial Vehicle Fleets from the Requirement of Notification to the Secretary of State When Insurance Is Cancelled** **PUBLIC 95**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE MCKENNEY		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-95
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LD 528 proposed to exempt the insurer of a fleet of 3 or more vehicles with commercial automobile coverage from the requirement to notify the Secretary of State when insurance is cancelled, terminated or lapsed.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-95) proposed a technical amendment to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 95 exempts the insurer of a fleet of 3 or more vehicles with commercial fleet automobile coverage from the requirement to notify the Secretary of State when insurance is cancelled, terminated or lapsed.

LD 529 **An Act To Allow Vehicles Owned by Sanitary or Sewer Districts To Use Municipal License Plates** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 529 proposed to require the Secretary of State to issue municipal plates for a vehicle owned by a sanitary or sewer district.

LD 555 **An Act To Enhance Driver Education and Safety** **PUBLIC 174
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FLETCHER SNOWE-MELLO		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-289
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LD 555 proposed to authorize an individual or entity to provide voluntary advanced driver education instruction to a person at least 21 years of age who has a valid driver's license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-289) replaced the bill and proposed to authorize an advanced driver education course, establish instructor licensing and curriculum requirements and provide penalties for noncompliance with the statutory provisions governing advanced driver education.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 174 authorizes an advanced driver education course, establishes instructor licensing and curriculum requirements and provides penalties for noncompliance with the statutory provisions governing advanced driver education.

Public Law 2005, chapter 174 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 20, 2005.

LD 606 **Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Rebuild the Frank J. Wood Bridge between Brunswick and Topsham** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON J EDMONDS	ONTP	

LD 606 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to rebuild the Frank J. Wood Bridge between Brunswick and Topsham.

LD 607 **An Act To Extend Passenger Rail Service to Midcoast Maine** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON J EDMONDS	ONTP	

LD 607 proposed to direct the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority to extend regularly scheduled passenger rail service between Portland and Rockland and points in between beginning January 2006.

LD 614 **An Act To Eliminate the Rebate Process for Refunding the State Gas Tax** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS PERRY J	ONTP	

LD 614 proposed to exempt fuel bought and used in a political subdivision's vehicles from the state motor fuel tax. Current law allows a political subdivision of the State to apply to the State Tax Assessor for a reimbursement of the tax paid on fuel bought and used in the political subdivision's vehicles.