

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 245 Resolve, To Direct the Secretary of State To Study Issues Related to Dealer Plates

RESOLVE 125

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NASS R	OTP-AM	S-81

This bill increases the number of vehicles that a motor vehicle dealer must sell to become a licensed motor vehicle dealer. It also provides that motor vehicle dealers that sell more than 6 motor vehicles, but fewer than 12, within a 12-month period may be issued at least 2 dealer plates.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-81)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Secretary of State to establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations for changes to the laws and rules governing dealer plates, including but not limited to laws governing the number of types of dealer plates issued and eligibility standards for issuance of the plates. The Secretary of State is required to report the findings and recommendations of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than November 30, 2007 together with draft legislation to implement those findings and recommendations. The amendment authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation to submit a bill related to the subject matter of the working group's report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 125 directs the Secretary of State to establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations for changes to the laws and rules governing dealer plates, including but not limited to laws governing the number of types of dealer plates issued and eligibility standards for issuance of the plates. The Secretary of State is required to report the findings and recommendations of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than November 30, 2007 together with draft legislation to implement those findings and recommendations. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation to submit a bill related to the subject matter of the working group's report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 264 An Act To Amend the Temporary Registration Plate Law

PUBLIC 177

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER HASTINGS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-127 S-87 DAMON

This bill allows the use of a temporary registration permit, which currently may be used only for a one-way trip, to be used for a round trip, as long as the entire trip occurs within 15 days. The purpose of this change, for example, is to allow a vehicle to be transported from a dealer to a garage and back to the dealer.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-127)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill. This amendment modifies the temporary registration permit law:

1. To allow a permit holder to make a round trip under the permit;
2. To decrease the period of validity of a permit from 15 days to 10 days; and
3. To increase the fee for the permit from \$12 to \$15.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Senate Amendment "A" (S-87)

This amendment retains the provisions of current law that allow a temporary registration permit for a one-way trip to be issued for a fee of \$12. It allows a temporary registration permit for a round trip to be issued for a fee of \$25.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, Chapter 177 modifies the temporary registration permit law. It retains the provisions of current law that allow a temporary registration permit for a one-way trip to be issued for a fee of \$12 but allows a temporary registration permit for a round trip to be issued for a fee of \$25. It decreases the period of validity of a temporary registration permit from 15 days to 10 days.

LD 265 An Act To Allow a Weight Tolerance for Vehicle Auxiliary Power Units

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THERIAULT DAMON	OTP-AM	H-36

This bill extends a weight tolerance for vehicle auxiliary power units in the laws governing highway weight limits for vehicles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-36)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 266 An Act To Fully Fund the Project To Replace the Route 302 Bridge in Naples

ONTP

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

This bill, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, seeks to fully fund in the Highway Budget the Department of Transportation's project for the replacement of the Route 302 bridge in the Town of Naples with a drawbridge of the department's specification. The project also includes the construction of a temporary bridge structure during the construction of the permanent bridge.

LD 299 An Act To Aid Municipalities Concerning Plowing Efficiency

ONTP

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

This bill exempts a vehicle modified for the purpose of plowing snow on town or state roads from weight limits that apply to public ways.