

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

This bill requires the Secretary of State, for a person who has documentation from a physician that the person is deaf or hard-of-hearing, to place a coded notation of that fact on that person's license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-98)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Secretary of State, at the request of a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing, to issue a sticker to that person to place in a location designated by the Secretary of State on the back of the person's driver's license to indicate that the person is deaf or hard-of-hearing.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, Chapter 123 requires the Secretary of State, at the request of a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing, to issue a sticker to that person to place in a location designated by the Secretary of State on the back of the person's driver's license to indicate that the person is deaf or hard-of-hearing.

LD 741 An Act Regarding When an Overweight Truck May Be Required To Unload

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

The bill allows a state police officer to permit an overweight combination vehicle consisting of a 3-axle truck tractor with a tri-axle semitrailer to proceed without unloading if the vehicle does not exceed by more than 10% the gross vehicle weight allowed in law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-126)

This amendment, which was the minority report of the Transportation Committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 766 An Act To Permit Operation of a Modified Show Vehicle on a Public Way

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SNOWE-MELLO	ONTP	

The bill directs the Chief of the State Police to adopt major substantive rules to allow the operation of a modified show vehicle on a public way for the purposes of participating in a modified show vehicle event, off-road competition or racing event. The bill also provides for a limited inspection of a modified show vehicle.

LD 775 An Act To Create a Special License Plate To Support Breast Cancer Support Services

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRANG BURGESS DAMON		

This bill creates a special Breast Cancer Support Services license plate to support breast cancer support services in the State. The beneficiaries of the program are the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition's Support Service Fund, the Maine Cancer Foundation and the Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program within the Department of Health and

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Human Services.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

**LD 781 An Act Making Unified Highway Fund and Other Funds Allocations for
the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain
Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State
Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2008 and June 30,
2009**

**PUBLIC 329
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-545

This bill does the following.

Part A makes appropriations and allocations of funds for the 2008-2009 biennium.

Part B makes appropriations and allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

Part C authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services on behalf of the Department of Transportation's Transportation Facilities Fund, to enter into financing arrangements in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 to establish lease-purchase contracts for the procurement of transportation facilities.

Part D requires the State Budget Officer to calculate the amount of savings in Part A that apply against each Highway Fund account for all departments and agencies from savings in the cost of health insurance and to transfer the amounts by financial order upon the approval of the Governor. These transfers are considered adjustments to allocations in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09.

Part E authorizes the State Budget Officer to transfer available balances of Highway Fund allocations for Personal Services in fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 between programs and departments within the Highway Fund by financial order upon approval of the Governor to be used for costs associated with collective bargaining agreements for state employees.

Part F establishes the maximum principal cost, interest rate and duration term for a financing agreement to acquire motor vehicles for the Maine State Police. It specifies that annual principal and interest costs must be paid from the appropriate line category appropriations and allocations in the Department of Public Safety General Fund and Highway Fund accounts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-545)

This committee amendment does the following.

Part A makes appropriations and allocations of funds for the 2008-2009 biennium.

Part B makes appropriations and allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

Part C requires that the State Budget Officer calculate the amount of savings that apply against each Highway Fund account for all departments and agencies from savings in the cost of health insurance and transfer the amounts by financial order upon the approval of the Governor. These transfers are considered adjustments to appropriations in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09. The State Budget Officer shall provide the Joint Standing