

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

August 2015

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</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; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i>	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

See also LD 1172.

LD 591 An Act To Allow Municipal and Volunteer Firefighters To Operate Motor Vehicles as Authorized Emergency Vehicles ONTP

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

This bill allows a municipal or volunteer firefighter trained and experienced in emergency vehicle operations to operate a motor vehicle as an authorized emergency vehicle.

LD 615 An Act Regarding Transparency in the Transportation of Hazardous Materials ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIPPING-SPITZ DILL	ONTP	

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to ensure that first responders, hospitals and emergency management agencies are provided information concerning hazardous materials transported by rail in the State in order to assist those entities in developing response plans.

See LD 484 under the Judiciary Committee.

LD 634 An Act To Allow Operation of Modified Utility Vehicles on a Public Way ONTP

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

This bill allows a modified utility vehicle, commonly known as a utility vehicle, recreational utility vehicle or multipurpose utility vehicle, to be registered and operated on a public way in Maine with certain limitations.

A modified utility vehicle that meets specified equipment requirements may be operated on Maine roads with a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less to go from an all-terrain vehicle trail to a gasoline station or an establishment selling prepared food and return to the all-terrain vehicle trail. Like a low-speed vehicle, a modified utility vehicle is exempt from inspection requirements and is registered by application to the Secretary of State.

In order to avoid the cost of printing a new registration plate specifically for modified utility vehicles, a modified utility vehicle is issued a motorcycle registration plate.

LD 645 An Act To Create a Transportation Planning Incentive for Communities Located on Peninsulas ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

In order to promote partnerships, including interlocal agreements under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 115, among municipalities located on state and state aid highways on peninsulas and to address the unique transportation needs of municipalities located on peninsulas with one road in and out, this bill requires the Department of Transportation to assign a higher priority classification for a state or state aid highway located on a peninsula. The relevant municipality or group of municipalities must develop a 10-year work plan that describes and addresses local and regional transportation infrastructure needs and considers the regional effect of the capital improvement of the state or state aid highway.

LD 676 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Study the Use ONTP
of Calcium Chloride on Roads and Its Effect on Vehicles

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

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to study the use of calcium chloride on roads and its effect on vehicles and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation with the results of the study.

LD 682 An Act To Ensure the Administration of Written Driving Tests PUBLIC 114

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY ROSEN	OTP-AM	H-109

This bill provides that the Secretary of State may not waive any component of the driver's license examination requirements except for an applicant who possesses a valid driver's license from another state or jurisdiction. The bill also clarifies that fees and any required application materials for a learner's permit must be collected by the Secretary of State, any examination for a learner's permit must be administered by the Secretary of State and a learner's permit must be issued by the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-109)

Current law provides that any required examination for a learner's permit may be administered only by the Secretary of State, and the bill clarifies the Secretary of State's authority regarding these examinations. This amendment, which strikes and replaces the bill, provides that the Secretary of State may waive this requirement on receipt of a Maine driver education course completion certificate. The amendment also strikes the emergency preamble and emergency clause from the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 114 provides that the Secretary of State may waive the required examination for a learner's permit on receipt of a Maine driver education course completion certificate.

See also LD 363.

LD 687 An Act To Expand Classification Categories for Motor Vehicles in the CARRIED OVER
State

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDEN LIBBY		