

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

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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

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		

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to revisit the motor vehicle classification of autocycle, which was defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 101, former subsection 6-B as an enclosed motorcycle with up to three wheels. The definition was a temporary measure that self-repealed in 2013. This bill proposes reviewing various types and models of enclosed motor vehicles with three wheels or fewer that are existing or under development for the purpose of registration and possibly creating a new motor vehicle classification for registration under the State's motor vehicle laws.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 706 Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform **Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCLEAN	OTP-AM	H-223

This resolve, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to establish a commission composed of Legislators, transportation professionals or other parties to study transportation funding reforms that will promote equity and sustainability and that will yield the predictable funding levels needed to support a safe and reliable highway and bridge system that supports economic opportunity.

Study topics may include, but are not limited to, a review of the funding levels necessary to achieve the capital goals set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 73, subsection 7, paragraphs A to D including anticipated shortfalls; a 10-year capital funding plan to meet those goals; mechanisms to address the erosion of Highway Fund receipts and the rising inequity among drivers caused by higher automobile fuel efficiency; methods to more equitably share the costs of the highway system between residents and visitors from outside the State; rolling back baseline fuel tax rates and adding a wholesale tax component; and the use of a portion of sales tax receipts from transportation-related sales for transportation needs.

The commission is required to submit a report of its findings, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by December 15, 2015, which in turn may submit a bill for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-223)

This amendment, which strikes and replaces the concept draft, establishes the Commission To Study Transportation Funding Reform. The commission is required to study how to reform and adequately supplement funding for the State's transportation infrastructure to promote equity, sustainability and predictability in a manner that allows the State to responsibly provide a safe and reliable transportation system. The commission is required to report its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than December 2, 2015. The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

LD 707 An Act To Correct an Error in the Law That Allows a Break in Control of Access on William L. Clarke Drive in the City of Westbrook **P & S 3 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE HASKELL	OTP-AM	H-57