

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

August 2019

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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 129th 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.

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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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

LD 331 An Act To Prohibit the Operation of Large Commercial Vessels in the Waters of Southern Mount Desert Island ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This bill prohibits the operation, mooring or anchoring of commercial vessels over 200 feet in length or with the capacity to carry more than 100 passengers in the waters of southern Mount Desert Island.

LD 344 An Act To Increase the Penalties for Illegally Passing a School Bus ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCDONALD G MOORE M	ONTP	

This bill increases the penalties for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing. The new penalties are:

1. A \$500 fine and a suspension of a driver's license for not more than 30 days for the first offense; and
2. A fine of not less than \$1,000 and a suspension of a driver's license for not less than 30 days for a second or subsequent offense occurring within five years of the first offense.

LD 350 An Act To Exempt School Buses from Snow Tire Restrictions PUBLIC 31

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-24

This bill exempts school buses operated by Head Start programs from the date restrictions on the use of studded snow tires.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-24)

This amendment exempts all school buses from the date restrictions on the use of studded snow tires, instead of creating a specific exemption for school buses operated by Head Start programs as in the bill. This amendment also changes the title to reflect the contents of the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 31 exempts all school buses from the date restrictions on the use of studded snow tires.

LD 380 An Act To Revise the Calculation of Tolls Established for the Maine State Ferry Service CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUDERA V HERBIG E		

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

This bill requires the Department of Transportation, by rule, to establish ferry tolls for each route of travel that are based upon the cost of service for vehicles, freight and passengers, and allows the department to provide discounted tolls for frequent usage of the Maine State Ferry Service. This bill also requires that the Marine Highway account must fund 100% of the capital costs and no more than 75% of the operating costs of the Maine State Ferry Service.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 389 An Act To Require Biennial State Motor Vehicle Inspections ONTP

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

This bill changes noncommercial automobile inspection requirements from an annual inspection to a biennial inspection.

**LD 422 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Increase the Leave to Withdraw
Number of Signs on the Mt. Katahdin Trail Pursuant to Joint
Rule**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N		

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to develop a plan to increase the number of directional and identification signs on the Mt. Katahdin Trail and to submit the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by January 1, 2020.

**LD 436 Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Review Standards for Vision ONTP
Tests**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIMBERLAKE J MORRIS J	ONTP	

This resolve requires the Secretary of State to review the standards for vision tests under the laws governing driver's licenses and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

LD 458 An Act To Require Motorists To Yield to Transit Buses PUBLIC 194

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B	OTP-AM	S-129

This bill requires an operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a transit bus traveling in the same direction if the transit bus has signaled and is reentering the traffic flow from a bus stop or shoulder of the roadway.