

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

interagency coordination and engagement with stakeholders. It also requires the Department of Transportation to submit a report with the implementation plan, including any necessary legislation and estimated appropriations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by February 1, 2026. The committee may report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 1562 An Act Regarding Municipal Road Standards

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 395 makes the following changes related to municipal road standards.

1. It requires a municipal officer or county commissioner responsible for maintenance and repair of a town way to be notified by a resident in writing of a defect in the town way that is not safe and convenient. It specifies that safety is determined based on existing roadway surface and the season of the year.
2. It allows the municipal officer or county commissioner, once notified, to evaluate the risk based on existing roadway surface and the season of the year and recommend a reasonably achievable repair.
3. It allows a person who receives bodily injury or suffers damage to the person's property through any defect or want of repair on any town way to recover for the same in a civil action.
4. It allows the legislative body of a municipality to appoint the municipal board of appeals to receive a petition of a road defect to review.
5. It repeals the provision about the manner of presenting a petition and replaces it with the requirements that the municipal board of appeals set a time and place near the defective town way for a hearing on the petition. If the board of appeals adjudges the town way to be safe and convenient based on existing roadway surface and the season of the year, the board of appeals must dismiss the petition.
6. It repeals the provision of the provision of law about failure of a town to comply with the repairs prescribed by the county commissioners.

LD 1568 An Act to Allow the Use of a Siren in a Vehicle Used by a Harbor Master or Deputy Harbor Master

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 190 adds a municipal vehicle operated by a harbor master or deputy harbor master to the list of authorized emergency vehicles. It allows a municipality to authorize an authorized emergency vehicle owned by a municipality and operated by a harbor master or