

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

STAFF:

MELANIE FURMAN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

MEMBERS:

SEN. TIMOTHY E. NANGLE, CHAIR
SEN. TERESA S. PIERCE
SEN. BRADLEE T. FARRIN

REP. LYDIA V. CRAFTS, CHAIR
REP. KAREN L. MONTELL
REP. DANIEL J. ANKELES
REP. HOLLY RAE EATON
REP. D. MICHAEL RAY
REP. WAYNE R. PARRY
REP. ROGER CLARENCE ALBERT
REP. RICHARD G. MASON
REP. JAMES LEE WHITE
REP. STEVEN M. BISHOP

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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

deputy harbor master to be equipped with a siren in addition to authorized lights. It also requires a person appointed or reappointed as a harbor master or deputy harbor master to have completed an emergency vehicle operation course provided by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police if operating a vehicle while exercising emergency privileges.

Public Law 2025, chapter 190 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2025.

LD 1581 An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax and Registration Fees Exemption for Certain Veterans

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 152 requires that, in order for an automobile to qualify for the excise tax exemption provided in current law for certain veterans who are disabled, the name of the qualifying veteran must appear on the automobile's certificate of title. It also specifies that a maximum of three automobiles owned by a veteran are eligible for exemption from registration fees and the excise tax.

Public Law 2025, chapter 152 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 30, 2025.

LD 1616 An Act to Eliminate Requirements for Drivers to Surrender Their Physical Driver's Licenses During a Temporary Suspension

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 173 eliminates requirements for an individual whose license has been temporarily suspended to surrender the individual's physical driver's license to allow the individual to keep the individual's primary identity documentation in the individual's possession. It also eliminates provisions establishing crimes and traffic infractions associated with display or possession of a suspended driver's license.

LD 1874 An Act to Enable the Maine Pilotage Commission to Oversee Pilots Operating in Portland Harbor

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 253 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Maine Pilotage Commission.

1. It transfers jurisdiction over pilots operating in Portland Harbor from the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor to the Maine Pilotage Commission.