MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

Transportation

BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

Prepared by:

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Office of Legislative Assistants State House, Station 13 Augusta, Maine 04333 (207) 289-2486 32 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF BLUE Paradis, E. ONTP LIGHTS ON VEHICLES BY CONSTABLES

SUMMARY: LD 32 proposed that municipalities be authorized to permit constables operating municipal vehicles to use blue flashing lights. The use of the flashing lights would be restricted to municipally owned vehicles clearly identified as municipal vehicles and to the boundaries of the municipality.

Blue flashing lights are identified with law enforcement activities, and the Legislature has resisted attempts to extend this privilege to any other group or for any other use. In many cases, constables lack arrest powers and the authority to carry a weapon. Law enforcement is primarily implemented by law enforcement officers other than constables. The need for blue flashing lights for constables could not be justified.

AN ACT TO REDUCE THE SPECIAL LIMIT McCollister ONTP FOR MOTOR TRUCKS TO 5 MILES PER HOUR LESS THAN THAT SET FOR PASSENGER VEHICLES

SUMMARY: LD 53 was intended to enable passenger vehicles to more easily pass trucks and thereby reduce the risk of accidents that occur as the result of passenger vehicles trying to overtake trucks. LD 53 could have actually increased accidents, according to testimony, especially on two lane roads. With trucks limited to a lesser speed, passenger vehicles would be tempted to pass motor trucks more often, including in no passing zones.

54 AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE McPherson ENG. AS AMEND. INSPECTION STICKERS

SUMMARY: Allows an even exchange of outdated inspection stickers for current year certificates, increases the fee for stickers from \$.25 to \$.50, and increases the amount of time stations have to return stickers from \$ to 20 days.

- 66 AN ACT RELATING TO INITIAL Webster ONTP REGISTRATION PLATES
- 67 AN ACT TO CHANGE THE LICENSE PLATE Webster ONTP SLOGAN

SUMMARY: Proposed to change the state's license plate slogan from "Vacationland" to "Pine Tree State."

- 68 AN ACT CONCERNING SIGNS ON THE Webster LV/WD MAINE TURNPIKE
- 70 AN ACT TO PERMIT HITCHHIKING Webster LV/WD