

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

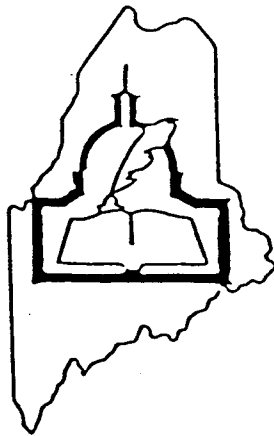
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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION  
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

At the last minute, this legislative proposal was withdrawn because of a recommendation by the Department of Transportation to completely review Title 35 in light of the State Government's current scrutiny of Maine's railroad policy.

LD 2132 AN ACT MAKING ALLOCATIONS FROM THE HIGHWAY FUND AND OTHER FUNDS FOR THE EXPENDITURES OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND CHANGING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE LAW NECESSARY TO THE  
Sponsor: THERIAULT, Dow, Strout  
Committee Report: OTP-ND

ND LD 2346

SUMMARY: See LD 2346.

LD 2171 AN ACT RELATING TO A NEW REGISTRATION PLATE ISSUE

INDEF PP46  
SEE LD 2346

Sponsor:  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 263

H-568 NADEAU H S

SUMMARY: During the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature, the Division of Motor Vehicles requested the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation to allocate highway funds for a new general issue of registration plates in 1986. The Division of Motor Vehicles justified its request by explaining that registration plates were meant to have a useful life of 6 years, but current plates are more than 10 years old. As a result of extended exposure to the elements, many plates have deteriorated seriously and there is evidence to show that the battered and faded condition of the plates hampers law enforcement efforts.

The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation requested authorization to study this problem and to come up with a solution. In the study process, the committee learned 2 important pieces of information which point to necessary action.

1. A survey of evasion of motor vehicle registration in Maine undertaken by the Department of Transportation shows an evasion rate of 4.7% which translates into an annual loss of \$500,000 in registration fees to the Highway Fund and an annual loss of \$1,100,000 in excise tax revenues to municipalities.

2. Registration files at the Division of Motor Vehicles must be purged. Current Division of Motor Vehicles files do not indicate active, valid registrations; inactive registrations; or invalid registrations. Presently, the Division of Motor Vehicles estimates that over 500,000 invalid registrations appear in their records, but they cannot be readily distinguished.

The committee reviewed several proposals and finally directed the Division of Motor Vehicles to prepare L.D. 263 which was discussed at length along with counter proposals from various sources, including proposals from the Secretary of State. Uncertainty about the best way to finance the reissue prompted the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation to hold the bill over to this Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature for further consideration.

This majority report from the Transportation Committee called for a general issue registration plate every 6 years and the first new general issue will begin on April 1, 1987.

Section 1 established the date for a new plate issue and a fee for the new plate, which should generate revenues of approximately \$1,865,000.

Section 2 provided for the reservation of plate numbers.

Section 3 provided funds to carry out the purpose of this new draft.

House Amendment (H-568) altered the design concept for the plate by introducing the feature illustration of the lobster.

LD        AN ACT RELATING TO A NEW REGISTRATION PLATE  
2172     ISSUE

NOT ACCEPTED  
SEE LD 2346

Sponsor:  
Committee Report:

SUMMARY: This measure was a minority report on the license plate bill, and this version advocated a different processing procedure to produce the plates.