

# 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 scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**STATE OF MAINE  
113TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**



**BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

**MAY 1988**

**MEMBERS**

**Sen. Charles G. Dow \***  
**Sen. Raynold Theriault**  
**Sen. Pamela L. Cahill**

**Rep. Fred W. Moholland \***  
**Rep. Harold M. Macomber**  
**Rep. Roger M. Pouliot**  
**Rep. Frederick F. Soucy**  
**Rep. Jeffery N. Mills**  
**Rep. Polly Reeves**  
**Rep. Donald A. Strout**  
**Rep. Orland G. McPherson**  
**Rep. Daniel J. Callahan**  
**Rep. Roland S. Salsbury, Jr.**

**\* Denotes Chair**

**Staff: Haven Whiteside, Legislative Analyst**

**Office of Policy & Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Sta. 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-1670**

EN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR  
EN WHITESIDE, DEP. DIRECTOR  
ERT W. BREWER  
D C. ELLIOTT  
) FLATEBO  
THA E. FREEMAN, SR. ATTY.  
B. GAUTSCHI  
LIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.



STATE OF MAINE  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES  
JOHN B. KNOX  
EDWARD POTTER  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
LARS H. RYDELL  
JOHN R. SELSER  
CAROLYN J. CHICK, PARALEGAL  
ROBERT W. DUNN, RES. ASST.  
HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR. RES. ASST.

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1988**

*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. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.*

*All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::*

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>OTP</b>       | <b>Ought to Pass</b>                         |
| <b>OTP-ND</b>    | <b>Ought to Pass in New Draft</b>            |
| <b>OTP-ND-NT</b> | <b>Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title</b> |
| <b>OTP-A</b>     | <b>Ought to Pass as Amended</b>              |
| <b>ONTP</b>      | <b>Ought Not to Pass</b>                     |
| <b>LVWD</b>      | <b>Leave to Withdraw</b>                     |
| <b>INDEF PP</b>  | <b>Indefinitely Postponed</b>                |

*Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Laurette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.*

*Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.*

**LD** An Act to Abolish the Maine Turnpike Authority  
**2082**

ONTP

| <u>SPONSOR(S)</u>            | <u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u> | <u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RACINE<br>CROWLEY<br>ERWIN E | ONTP                    |                           |

SUMMARY

The bill would abolish the Maine Turnpike Authority and transfer its duties and obligations to the Department of Transportation in 1990. DOT would submit a transition plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, at a cost of \$25,000. The long term financial implications require study.

The Maine Turnpike Authority was studied by the Legislature in 1973 and 1978. In 1978 PL c. 658 was enacted, which would have dissolved the Authority and turned the turnpike over to DOT when the bonds were paid off, while continuing it as a toll highway. However, PL 1981, c. 492 repealed that provision and continued the Authority. Legislation in 1982 affirmed that decision and moved the enabling legislation from the Private & Special Laws to the General laws.

LD An Act to Prohibit the Display of Blue Lights on Vehicles PUBLIC  
2092 Other than those Used by Authorized Law Enforcement Officers 644  
and Agencies

| <u>SPONSOR(S)</u>   | <u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u> | <u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CAHILL<br>MCPHERSON | OTP-AM                  | S-335                     |

SUMMARY

The bill makes it clear that vehicles other than law enforcement vehicles may not be equipped with or display a blue light. It also reorganizes present law, which restricts use of auxiliary lights on motor vehicles as follows:

spotlights or foglights may not shine more than 2 feet above the road at 30 feet, except for reading signs and for plowing. Foglights are white or amber.

alternate flashing headlamps are restricted to ambulance, fire, police and highway maintenance vehicles.

blue lights are to be used only by police, state fire inspectors, game wardens, marine wardens, Baxter State Park rangers, and sheriffs.

red lights are to be used only by ambulances, fire departments, city and town fire inspectors, forest fire vehicles and volunteer firefighters, volunteer rescue squad or volunteer ambulance in action; and there is a provision allowing red lights for school buses.