

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION

JULY 1989

MEMBERS

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Sen. Raynold Theriault
Sen. Robert R. Gould

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Rep. Jeffery N. Mills
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Rep. Clyde A. Hichborn
Rep. Ronald C. Bailey

* Denotes Chair

Staff: Haven Whiteside, Legislative Analyst

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated as follows:

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

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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

SPONSOR(S)COMMITTEE REPORTAMENDMENTS ADOPTED

LV/WD

SUMMARY

This bill is the minority report of the heavy truck study. Its provisions are in addition to those of LD36. For vehicles which are within their authorized gross weight, including any applicable permits, it repeals the axle limits. For vehicles which exceed their authorized gross weight, the axle limits would remain.

LD 36

An Act to Improve Compliance with Truck Weight Limits
(Reported Pursuant to Public Laws of 1987, Chapter 793)

PUBLIC 528

SPONSOR(S)COMMITTEE REPORTAMENDMENTS ADOPTED

OTP-AM

H-277

S-242 TWITCHELL

SUMMARY

This bill is the majority report of the heavy truck study. It includes 4 major initiatives to address the problem of overweight trucks, as discussed under the committee amendment.

The bill also includes other provisions to help provide a fair and workable approach to truck weight and enforcement.

Section 2 continues criminal penalties and the present fine schedule for ordinary vehicle overweight violations. The designation of vehicle overweight violations as "misdemeanors" in present law is retained.

Section 5 provides for several informational activities by the Division of Motor Vehicles and Bureau of State Police.

Section 6 addresses the issue of out-of-state and Canadian trucks by requiring that the State Police and the Department of Transportation continue mutual discussions with bordering jurisdictions, Quebec, New Brunswick and New Hampshire.

Section 7 requires regular progress reports on weight compliance and enforcement from the Department of Transportation, the Bureau of State Police and the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Section 8 requires the Department of Transportation to study the possibility of civil action against persons who are guilty of repeated aggravated overweight violations.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill will result in: 1) A Highway fund allocation to the Division of Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$67,562 for FY 1989-90 and \$65,078 for FY 1990-91; and 2) a Transportation Safety Fund allocation to the Dept. Public Safety, Motor Carrier Safety, in the amount of \$601,885 for FY 1989-90 and \$442,632 for FY 1990-91.

CA (H-277) The committee amendment replaces the bill and follows the original bill by focussing on trucks that are aggravated overweight. Aggravated overweight is defined as 20% overweight because a