

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

JULY 1989

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Sen. Raynold Theriault  
Sen. Robert R. Gould

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Rep. Clyde A. Hichborn  
Rep. Ronald C. Bailey

\* Denotes Chair

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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)MICHAUD  
WEBSTER C  
DEXTER  
CAHILL TCOMMITTEE REPORT

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTEDSUMMARY

Under present law, commercial vehicles generally may not carry a weight in excess of the road limit, which is set by law according to the number of axles. However, it is possible to purchase a general permit or a commodity permit which allows a vehicle to carry a greater weight. If a vehicle exceeds the weight allowed by its permit, the overweight fine is calculated based on the amount in excess of the lower road limit, rather than the amount in excess of the higher permit limit. This bill bases any overweight fine on the amount in excess of the permit limit, rather than the road limit.

Currently, a truck's weight must meet 2 standards, gross weight and axle weight. The bill eliminates the axle weight standard.

Provisions dealing with these issues were included in LD 36.

**LD 471** An Act to Exempt Interstate 95 between Exits 19 and 21 from  
Truck Weight Restrictions

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)MITCHELL  
CLARK NCOMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTEDSUMMARY

The bill would abolish truck weight limits on Interstate 95 between exits 19 and 21 in Freeport.

The weight limits on the Interstate Highway System set by the Federal Aid Highway Act (23 USCA §127) are lower than the weight limits on other highways of the state. Federal highway funds would be withheld from any State which allows weights on the Interstate system in excess of the federal limits, except for higher state limits that were in place July 1, 1956.

**LD 488** An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

PUBLIC 81

SPONSOR(S)THERIAULT  
TWITCHELL  
MACOMBER  
MCPHERSONCOMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

S-39

SUMMARY

The bill removes full-time salesmen from the list of those who can use dealer's plates. Dealer's plates still could be used by them (or anyone else) for purposes directly connected with buying, selling, demonstrating, etc.