

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

Sen. R. Donald Twitchell *
Sen. Reynold Theriault
Sen. Robert R. Gould

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Rep. Harold M. Macomber
Rep. Jeffery N. Mills
Rep. Hilda C. Martin
Rep. Mona Walker Hale
Rep. Robert E. Hussey, Jr.
Rep. Orland G. McPherson
Rep. Donald A. Strout
Rep. Clyde A. Hichborn
Rep. Ronald C. Bailey

* Denotes Chair

Staff: Haven Whiteside, Legislative Analyst

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

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
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JOHN B. KNOX



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 289-1670

ANNIKA E. LANE
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
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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.

a restricted license based on educational need is not required to complete driver education. That exemption is maintained for drivers between 16 and 17 who apply for a special restricted license based on educational need.

The amendment retains the extension of validity of an instruction permit from 12 months to 18 months, and adds a requirement that persons under age 17 must have an instruction permit for 3 months before applying for an operator's license.

The amendment leaves it at 17 the minimum age for obtaining a motor vehicle operator's license without driver education.

LD 834 Resolve, to Provide for a Commemorative Motor Vehicle License Plate to Celebrate the Bicentennial of Hancock County RESOLVE 12 EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
FOSTER OTP
HUTCHINS
SWAZEY
PERKINS

SUMMARY
Hancock County is celebrating its bicentennial in 1989. The bill authorizes special commemorative license plates, as approved by the Hancock County Bicentennial Committee.

LD 838 An Act to Provide Motor Vehicle Registration Consistency ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
NORTON ONTP
JACKSON
AULT
KILKELLY

SUMMARY
Under present law if the registration of a motor vehicle lapses for more than 30 days the renewal is backdated to the month of issuance of the previous registration. The bill would commence re-registration in the month of the re-registration.

LD 952 An Act to Make Allocations from the Transportation Safety Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1990, and June 30, 1991 PUBLIC 41 EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
FOSTER OTP-AM H-345
BRANNIGAN
POULIOT
PERKINS

SUMMARY
This bill makes allocations from the Transportation Safety Fund to the Department of Public Safety for

FY 90 and 91, including approximately \$900,000 per year for 25 existing positions in Motor Carrier Safety and \$300,000 per year for 6 existing positions in Traffic Safety. It also includes a supplemental allocation of about \$400,000 per year for 12 additional troopers for commercial vehicle enforcement and a one-time capital expense of \$200,000 in FY 90 to equip them. (The Transportation Safety Fund is funded under 29 MRSA §2713 from fees and fines paid by motor vehicles-for-hire.)

CA (H-345) reduces the supplemental allocation to the Department of Public Safety by \$150,000 per year and cuts the number of additional troopers to 9.

LD 968 An Act to Mandate the Use of Headlights during Inclement Weather ONTP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
LAPORTE TWITCHELL COTE MILLS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

Under present law, vehicles must display lights visible from front and rear from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise and when visibility is less than 500 feet. There is an exception for vehicles parked by the curb if they are visible at 100 feet. The bill adds some details to the language.

LD 999 An Act to Amend Department of Transportation Statutory Provisions Pursuant to the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 Enacted by the Congress of the United States PUBLIC 208 EMERGENCY

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
TWITCHELL MOHOLLAND GOULD R R HICHBORN	OTP-AM	S-117 S-125 BUSTIN

SUMMARY

Under the federal Uniform Relocation and Assistance Act of 1971, all State agencies which receive federal funds must provide relocation assistance when they dislocate persons by acquiring property or otherwise. Amendments to that law in 1987 required conforming changes in State law. This bill makes the necessary changes in the statutes applicable to the Maine Department of Transportation, including:

- Increased benefit ceiling for displaced residential owners from \$15,000 to \$22,500.
- Increased tenant benefit from \$4,000 over 48 months to \$5,250 over 42 months.
- Added "reestablishment" benefit up to \$10,000 for businesses.
- Changed limits on payment in lieu of moving costs for businesses from (\$2,500 to \$10,000) to (\$1,000 to \$20,000) and dropped apartment houses from that program.