

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<b>PUBLIC XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<b>P&amp;S XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<b>RESOLVE XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<b>CON RES XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<b>CARRIED OVER</b>	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
<b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b>	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<b>ONTP</b>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<b>LVWD</b>	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<b>UNSIGNED</b>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

notice is returned unclaimed or unable to be delivered, the notice be published at least twice in a general circulation newspaper in the county. The bill would have removed the penalty of \$25 per day for non-compliance with the inquiry and notice provisions of the statute.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-475) replaces the original bill. This amendment reorganizes the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29, §2610, sub-§1 and limits the abandoned vehicle law to vehicles that are towed, left on private property or left at a place of business after being repaired. The amendment also removes the requirement that the holder of an abandoned vehicle must act within 30 days of receipt of the vehicle, instead placing a cap on storage fees if action is taken more than 30 days after receipt. The changes require the Secretary of State to delay issuing an ownership document until the holder of an abandoned vehicle has had the vehicle for at least 30 days and requires that the vehicle be released if the owner pays all charges before the Secretary of State acts. The amendment excludes vehicles towed for snow removal purposes from the abandoned vehicle law for 48 hours after being towed. The changes also remove the prohibition from removing personal items.

**LD 664**      **An Act to Increase the Fees for Local Registration of Motor Vehicles**

**PUBLIC 111**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SPEAR	OTP            MAJ	
HOLLOWAY	ONTP          MIN	
STROUT		
NUTTING		

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes a municipality to increase its service fee from \$2 to \$3 for motor vehicle registration renewals and from \$2 to \$4 for new motor vehicle registrations. The service fees are retained by the municipality issuing the registration.

**LD 702**      **An Act Regarding the Relocation of Utility Facilities as a Result of State Highway Construction**

**CARRIED OVER**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MARTIN J		
THERIAULT		
GOULD R R		
HUSSEY		

**SUMMARY**

Under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, §255, public utilities are entitled to reimbursement from the Highway Fund for up to 90% of the costs of facility relocation when required in connection with construction of interstate highways. No similar provision applies when a public utility's facility must be relocated in connection with state highway construction. The cost to the ratepayers of Maine utilities from required relocation due to highway construction is substantial. This bill would provide an incentive to the Department of Transportation and the State's utilities to work together to minimize the costs of relocation of utility facilities.

This bill was carried over to the 2nd Regular Session by the Transportation Committee.