

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUSINESS LEGISLATION**

**MAY 1992**

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1992**

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 far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

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, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

## Joint Standing Committee on Business Legislation

**LD 994**      **An Act to Amend the Maine Traveler Information Services Laws**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BUSTIN TWITCHELL	ONTP	

### **SUMMARY**

No license is required for on-premise business signs. Off-premises business signs are initially erected by, and are under the supervision of, the Department of Transportation with the advise of The Travel Information Advisory Council. They have a program of licensed business signs. This program allows only directional signs and only when a change of direction is required. Generally speaking, no signs may be erected except under the auspices of this program. A business is restricted to 6 signs, none of which may be more than 10 miles from the location of the business. These signs may be, and generally are, erected within the right of way, which is the area owned by the state or municipality and consists of the road, shoulders, ditches, etc., the total width of which is specially delineated for each road.

There are currently a number of exceptions to the requirement that a business sign be part of the State program. The only signs that may be placed in a right of way without a license are those dealing with government, religious or civic organization meetings or signs related to a specific political campaign. Signs which may be placed outside the right of way without license include those for non-profit fund raising activities, county fairs, historical and cultural institutions, general political or religious messages, and seasonal agricultural businesses.

The original bill required that applicants erect their own official business directional signs. It also allows real estate signs to be placed in the public right of way.

Committee Amendment "A" deletes the bill and in its place requires that the Travel Information Advisory Council consider the problem faced by persons with homes for sale that are not on a through road, particularly in light of the problems that the recession is creating for home sellers. The Council is required to make a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business legislation.

**LD 1661**      **An Act to Provide for Better Regulation of Commercial Driving Instruction Schools**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
AIKMAN BRAWN MATTHEWS	ONTP	

### **SUMMARY**

This bill implements the changes required by the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986. The bill also allows the Board of Commercial Driver Education to establish new and revised qualification requirements for schools and instructors that ensure compatibility with the new commercial driver's license laws as well as the standards adopted by the Department of Education and the Maine Technical College System.