

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:

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

LD 1601 An Act Regarding the Issuance of Special Plates for Rescue Unit Workers and Providers of Emergency Medical Services ONTP

SPONSOR(S) WATERMAN CARROLL D KERR	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have created a special license plate for rescue unit workers and emergency medical services' personnel. It also provided for a \$50 forfeiture for failure by inactive rescue workers to return recalled license plates to the Secretary of State.

LD 1623 An Act Concerning Responsibility of Motor Vehicle Owners for Registration ONTP

SPONSOR(S) MILLS BOUTILIER HALE	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have amended the law to make clear that the person responsible for registering a vehicle will be cited for failure to register if that person operates an unregistered vehicle or allows someone else to operate an unregistered vehicle.

LD 1641 An Act to Prohibit Emission of Unreasonable Noise from Motor Vehicles ONTP

SPONSOR(S) KERR WATERMAN DUTREMBLE L	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have prohibited the operation of a radio, loudspeaker or other auxiliary device on or in a vehicle in a manner that causes annoyingly loud noises. This restriction would not have applied to political speech.

LD 1681 An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws ONTP

SPONSOR(S) MILLS BOUTILIER	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have allowed the use of dealer registration plates while driving vehicles to auction sites and while transporting dealership personnel to meetings related to training and the operation of the dealership.

This bill would have repealed the law regarding the inspection standards for a catalytic converter.

Catalytic converters would have remained subject to inspection standards promulgated by the Chief of the State Police pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29, §2503, sub-§1.

This bill also would have allowed dealers to demonstrate and use new motor vehicles that have not been previously registered or titled without requiring inspection stickers. This would have applied only to new vehicles and would have avoided the process of changing inspection stickers on new vehicles that remain in inventory for an extended period of time. This would not have changed inspection law requirements for new vehicles when they are sold and titled.

LD 1733 An Act Requiring Notice by the Secretary of State before ONTP
Suspension or Expiration of a Motor Vehicle Registration
(By Request)

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GAUVREAU	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the Secretary of State to provide written notice to registrants at least 7 days prior to suspension or expiration of their motor vehicle registrations.

LD 1765 An Act Amending Certain Motor Vehicle Laws PUBLIC 597

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MACOMBER TWITCHELL STROUT BAILEY R	OTP-AM	H-653

SUMMARY

This bill makes several changes to the motor vehicle laws. The bill enacts a new provision allowing municipal agents who are authorized to process a variety of permits to collect a service fee of \$1 in addition to the amounts charged for each of these transactions. The bill empowers the Secretary of State to revoke with due cause the appointment of municipal agents.

The bill amends a variety of plate laws including hire class license plates, initial plates for taxicabs, disabled veteran registration plates, vehicle dealer's service plates and dealer wrecker plates. The bill also clarifies when the next new plate issue begins.

The bill amends a variety of laws relating to licenses, including the validity period for commercial vehicle operation of valid Class 1, 2 and 3 licenses and licenses endorsed for operation of school buses. The bill amended the waiting period for special restricted licenses for 15 year olds and the fee of a commercial driver's license. It also allows the Secretary of State to suspend the license of any licensed dealer for failure to have an established place of business and it amends the definition of unlawful use of a license. The bill clarifies the work license provision of the habitual offender.

The bill also amends several insurance related provision including the definition of a repeat operating-under-the-influence offender and the provision that allows vehicles to be insured by foreign insurance carriers. The bill also states that the insurance required for vehicles used for hire or as school buses or in the transportation of students must be provided by a company authorized by the Superintendent of Insurance.