

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION

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.

LD 2042 An Act Concerning Highway Traffic Laws

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
CROWLEY
TAMMARO
HALE

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Department of Transportation to install and maintain signs directing traffic to keep to the right except to pass on roads that have a passing lane on an inclined grade.

The committee reported the bill out ONTP and by letter directed the DOT to review current signing practices and the accident histories of truck passing lanes, including certain portions of Route 1-A north of Stockton Springs mentioned by the sponsor as being problematic. The department is to report its findings to the committee.

LD 2049 An Act Regarding Special Plates

PUBLIC 869
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)
MACOMBER
STROUT

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-980
S-779 ESTY

SUMMARY

This bill repeals the recently enacted law that provided for a number of differently identified special plates for various types of veterans.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-980) establishes a generic veterans registration plate program for any veteran of the military service who has been honorably discharged. The amendment also changes the bill title and adds an allocation and a fiscal note.

The Senate Amendment (S-779) extends the period of availability of United States flag plates for one year to March 30, 1993, changes the title of the bill and replaces the fiscal note.

LD 2089 An Act to Amend Certain Motor Vehicle Laws

PUBLIC 758

SPONSOR(S)
MACOMBER
BAILEY H
THERIAULT
STROUT

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-1163
S-655 TWITCHELL

SUMMARY

This bill amends various sections of the motor vehicle laws. The bill:

1. Clarifies the law concerning motor vehicle registration plates for all unmarked law enforcement vehicles;
2. Changes the requirement of the Secretary of State to provide testing for commercial drivers from within 7 days to within 14 days;
3. Requires that a driver's license must show a mailing address; and

4. Clarifies the provision concerning the reinstatement fee required for the termination of a license suspension or revocation issued by the court or the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1163) makes changes in the provisions of the bill to reduce from 14 days to 10 working days the time in which the Secretary of State must examine an applicant for a "Class A" or "Class B" license that is needed for employment purposes. The amendment also makes state law consistent with federal law by eliminating the requirement that a commercial driver's license include a color photograph. The amendment adds several new sections to the bill to:

1. Allow a person to reserve a regular vehicle registration number for 2 years and an antique car registration number for 4 years;
2. Authorize the Secretary of State to issue vanity plates with up to 7 characters;
3. Clarify that all replacement plates are assessed a \$5 fee;
4. Authorize the Secretary of State to continue to sell the United States flag plate until the existing stock is exhausted;
5. Authorize the Secretary of State to exempt certain unmarked law enforcement vehicles from the requirement to display special state registration plates and to determine whether the records of certain nongovernment vehicles may be confidential for a limited period of time;
6. Authorize the Secretary of State to issue special or vanity loaner plates to dealers holding special initial registration plates;
7. Limit the use of temporary plates by dealers and require them to maintain a written record of the use of temporary plates issued to them;
8. Clarify the immunity from damages provisions for persons providing information on the impairment of other drivers to the Secretary of State; and
9. Establish the crime of aggravated misstatement of fact.

The amendment also adds an allocations section and a fiscal note to the bill.

The Senate Amendment (S-655) amends the committee amendment to remove potential liability of the State for funding correctional costs which may be incurred by county government as a result of establishment of the crime of aggravated misstatement of fact.

Note: the part of the committee amendment governing the flag plates was repealed and that program extended for a year to March 30, 1993 by a Senate Amendment to LD 2049.

**LD 2099 An Act Making Revisions to the Laws Concerning Special
Veterans' Registration Plates and Emblems**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

KETTERER
BRAWN
TREAT
AIKMAN

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill adds recipients of the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the