

# 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.

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

Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal with Combat V, the Air Medal with V, the Army Accommodation with V and veterans to the Vietnam War and World War II to those authorized to receive and display special veterans' registration plates and emblems. (See LD 2049)

**LD 2112 An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Salvage Laws**

**PUBLIC 700**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> |     | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------|---------|
| MACOMBER          | OTP-AM                  | MAJ | H-928                     | MAJ REP |
| STROUT            | OTP-AM                  | MIN |                           |         |
| THERIAULT         |                         |     |                           |         |
| BAILEY H          |                         |     |                           |         |

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires an insurer to obtain a certificate of salvage within 20 days of settling a total loss claim on a vehicle. It also requires any person who acquires a salvage vehicle to obtain a certificate of salvage if one has not already been issued and the vehicle is to be repaired for use on the road. A person who repairs or rebuilds a salvage vehicle is required to disclose any repairs made to the transferee of the vehicle. The bill also clarifies the legends that must appear on certificates of salvage and subsequently issued Maine titles.

The majority report, Committee Amendment "A" (H-928), requires the Secretary of State to act on an application for a certificate of salvage within 20 days. The amendment also replaces reference to "authorized agent" of an insurance company in the bill with reference to an insurer's "designee" to avoid confusion with insurance sales agents.

**LD 2155 An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws**

**PUBLIC 694**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> |  | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| BAILEY R          | OTP-AM                  |  | H-943                     |  |
| MACOMBER          |                         |  |                           |  |
| STROUT            |                         |  |                           |  |
| THERIAULT         |                         |  |                           |  |

**SUMMARY**

This bill makes several changes in the laws concerning motor vehicles. It adds the definition of "solid waste" and clarifies certain truck weight tolerances on the highways. It makes a technical change concerning the use of amber lights on snowplows and amends the law concerning stopping for a law enforcement officer to prohibit an operator of a motor vehicle from exiting the motor vehicle until the law enforcement officer indicates to do so.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-943) adds clarifying language to the definition of "solid waste" contained in the bill. The amendment also clarifies the bill's language regarding the use of amber lights on snowplows to require the wing light be in use only when the truck is plowing. Finally, the amendment deletes from the bill the section that amended the law governing the conduct of a driver of a vehicle that has been stopped by a law enforcement officer.