

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

**JULY 1993**

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

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

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

4693NRG

4. 50% to be awarded as grants to nonprofit organizations and municipalities for preservation of habitat and open space. The Commission of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife would award the grants.

House amendment (H-640) continues reimbursement to the Secretary of State at \$10 per set of plates beyond the first 2 years of the program. It changes the Maine State Parks Capital Improvements Fund to the Maine State Parks Fund and specifies that the fund can be used for maintenance, repairs and operations. It also allows the Maine State Parks Fund to be used to buy out contracts on state land. The House amendment changes the distribution of funds to 60% to the Maine State Parks Funds and 40% to the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund. The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation is charged with reviewing the distribution of funds and submitting legislation by November 1, 1995 to continue or amend the distribution formula.

The provisions of this bill, as amended by H-640 and S-274, were enacted as Part BBB of LD 283.

**LD 745      An Act to Authorize the Issuance of Repair Plates to Automobile Repair Garages      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
TRACY STROUT	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have created repairer plates for businesses such as body shops and repair garages to use solely on vehicles in their possession for testing and adjusting.

**LD 747      An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Suspension of an Operator's License for Nonpayment of Fines      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required a clerk of court to notify the Secretary of State when a person fails to pay a fine imposed for a criminal traffic offense or a traffic infraction within 30 days of judgment. The clerk would have been required to send notice regardless of any court order granting the operator more than 30 days to pay the fine. The Secretary of State would then suspend that person's license until the fine and a \$25 reinstatement fee were paid. This bill would have made license suspension mandatory even if the court had granted the operator more than 30 days to pay the fine in full. Under current law, a clerk of court is required to suspend an operator's license for nonpayment of fines and notify the Secretary of State of the suspension.

**LD 753      An Act to Ensure Complete Motor Vehicle Accident Reports      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required the investigating officer to include on each motor vehicle accident report a determination of which driver was at fault or to write "undetermined" in cases where fault could not be

determined. The bill also would have required that these reports be provided to the Secretary of State. This information would then have been available to insurance companies upon request.

**LD 786 An Act to Authorize Modifications to Tolls on the Maine Turnpike**

PUBLIC 116

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RICHARDSON  
BRANNIGAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this bill is to allow the Maine Turnpike Authority and the Department of Transportation to respond to new initiatives in transportation planning. It authorizes the Maine Turnpike to operate open barrier toll collection systems.

**LD 832 An Act to Decrease Traffic Accidents through Creation of an Intermediate License for Minors**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
FAIRCLOTH  
PARADIS J

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP MAJ  
OTP-AM MIN

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to raise the age and experience requirements for a person accompanying someone operating with an instruction permit. The bill provided for an intermediate license to be issued to persons under 18 years of age. An intermediate licensee could not drive between 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m. unless accompanied by an adult who had been licensed for 3 years. Provisions for solo driving when an activity or employment necessitates were included in the bill. A holder of an intermediate license could apply for an operator's license when the licensee had completed 12 consecutive months of driving without a moving violation. This bill extended from 1 year to 2 years the period during which a minor's license could be automatically suspended for a motor vehicle moving violation. The bill also required the Secretary of State to issue persons under 21 years of age licenses with a profile photograph instead of a full-face photograph and to color code intermediate licenses.

The committee amendment (H-391) is the minority report. The amendment replaced the original bill. The amendment contained the following provisions:

1. It changed the restrictions on who could accompany a person operating on an instruction permit to 2 years' experience as a licensed driver without a "major" motor vehicle violation during that 2-year period; and
2. It established an intermediate license for persons under 18 years of age. An intermediate licensee could not drive between 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m. unless accompanied by a person meeting the criteria for a person accompanying a person operating on an instruction permit. Provisions for a waiver of the nighttime restriction were included for solo driving when an activity or employment necessitates that waiver. An intermediate license would become an operator's license upon completion of 12 months of driving without a violation or upon the licensee's 21st birthday.

The amendment also added a fiscal note.