

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1994**

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, 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*

*P&S XXX*

*RESOLVE XXX*

*CON RES XXX*

*EMERGENCY*

*ONTP*

*INDEF PP*

*FAILED ENACTMENT*

*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT*

*FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*

*DIED BETWEEN BODIES*

*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*

*VETO SUSTAINED*

*UNSIGNED*

*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*

*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Resolve*

*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*

*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*

*Ought Not to Pass report accepted*

*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*

*Bill failed to get majority vote*

*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*

*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*

*House & Senate disagree; bill died*

*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*

*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

*Not signed by Governor within 10 days*

*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

**LD 1613**

**An Act Concerning Business Directional Signs on Certain  
Controlled Access Highways**

PUBLIC 516

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LINDAHL  
GOULD R R

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-748

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows the placement of business directional signs in certain controlled access highways that are designed to bypass existing business districts. Currently, official business directional signs are prohibited from the interstate highway system and controlled access highways by rule.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-748) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1636**

**An Act to Modify the Manufacture of Motor Vehicle  
Registration Plates**

PUBLIC 567  
EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**  
STROUT

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-819

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows funds from the Environmental Trust Fund to be used for marketing of the environmental registration plate and production and marketing of goods using the license plate design. Proceeds from the sale of the products must be credited to that fund. The bill specifies that the Secretary of State will be the authorizing authority when a request is made to reproduce an environmental plate. It allows for assessment of a penalty if a registration plate is reproduced without proper authorization. The bill allows the Secretary of State the option of using a framed border on registration plates.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-819) allows vehicles assigned to the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to display environmental plates in lieu of specially designated state plates. It clarifies that money from the fund can be used to market the environmental registration plates and to produce and market products using the design. It amends the allocation in Public Law 1993, chapter 410 to reflect this change. It changes the date of availability of the University of Maine System license plates to no later than February 1, 1995. It also adds an emergency preamble and clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1642**

**An Act to Establish a Financial Assistance Program for  
Utilities Burdened as a Result of State Highway Construction**

PUBLIC 656

**SPONSOR(S)**  
O'GARA

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-759

**SUMMARY**

Pursuant to Public Law 1991, chapter 860, the Department of Transportation was required to file a report with the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation for the development of a program to provide financial assistance to utilities experiencing serious financial hardship as a result of the relocation of facilities that are part of bridge and highway projects.

This bill implements the report presented to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation in March 1993 establishing the financial assistance program for water utilities and combination water and sewer