

# 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 1811 An Act to Provide for a Disaster Relief Fund**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CAHILL

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have transferred 1/10 of a cent from the gasoline tax collected to a Disaster Relief Fund administered and expended by the Maine Emergency Management Agency. The Disaster Relief Fund money would have been used to pay the state obligated share of public assistance for presidentially declared disasters.

**LD 1823 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Erect Signs Indicating the Bath, Brunswick and Topsham Recreational Area**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CAHILL  
HARRIMAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this resolve was to direct the Department of Transportation to erect 2 signs on Interstate 95 indicating the Bath, Brunswick and Topsham Recreational Region.

**LD 1858 An Act to Streamline the Department of Transportation's Permitting Procedure for Aboveground Facilities**

PUBLIC 540

**SPONSOR(S)**  
BRANNIGAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-421

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to adopt rules to allow public utilities to place facilities within the public way without having to first obtain a written location permit. The bill also requires that the rules contain specific conditions determined necessary to protect the public safety and prevent obstruction of the public way.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-421) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1872 An Act to Make Allocations from the Maine Turnpike Authority Funds to the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1995**

PUBLIC 563

**SPONSOR(S)**  
BRANNIGAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-462

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this bill is to make allocations from the gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority from the authority's fiscal year ending December 31, 1995, in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6 and the authority's general bond resolution. The bill also clarifies the timing of submissions of the authority's operating budgets.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-462) clarifies that the maintenance services authorized on connecting interstate highways may be performed only on roadways within 5 miles of the Maine Turnpike.

**LD 1873    An Act to Facilitate Collection of Tolls on the Maine Turnpike**

PUBLIC 698

**SPONSOR(S)**  
BRANNIGAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-494

**SUMMARY**

This bill enables the Maine Turnpike Authority to implement new technologies for the collection of tolls.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-494) makes technical corrections to the bill. It clarifies that the Maine Turnpike Authority is responsible for sending the notice of liability. It alters the procedure by which the Secretary of State is directed to suspend a registration. In the bill, the authority is authorized to notify the Secretary of State if an owner does not satisfy a liability within 30 days after adjudication. The amendment provides for the authority to petition the court if the liability is not satisfied and for the court to then order the suspension of the registration on the vehicle involved in the failure-to-pay violation. The amendment includes an effective date of July 1, 1995 for those sections of the bill that enact toll violation provisions. The amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill and also conforms existing law to current drafting standards.

**LD 1895    An Act to Authorize Department of Transportation Bond Issues in the Amount of \$21,300,000 to Improve Rail and Port Facilities and Make Improvements at State and Municipal Transportation Facilities**

P & S 93

**SPONSOR(S)**  
GOULD R R  
BRANNIGAN  
O'GARA

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-1068 O'GARA  
S-540 BRANNIGAN

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$19,800,000, to be used to improve passenger and freight rail facilities, to construct municipal sand and salt storage facilities and to remove underground fuel tanks at Department of Transportation and State Police facilities.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-540) changes the amount of the bonds to be issued from \$19,800,000 to \$21,300,000 and authorizes the improvement of rail and port facilities. This amendment requires that the referendum be submitted at the primary election in June, rather than at a general election. This amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1068) requires that the referendum be submitted at the general election in November, rather than at the primary election in June.