

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

AUGUST 1995

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Sen. Judy A. Paradis*

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Rep. David A. Lindahl*

*\*Denotes Chair*



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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE  
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

**AUGUST 1995**

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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 categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

**LD 154 An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1995**

P & S 5  
EMERGENCY

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
O'GARA STEVENS A	OTP	

**SUMMARY**

Part A of this bill makes supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund. Part B makes allocations from the Highway Fund for approved reclassifications and range changes. Part C provides that any balance remaining on June 30, 1995 in the Highway Fund "Salary Plan" program must be carried forward to June 30, 1996.

**LD 165 An Act to Require All Persons to Use Safety Belts in Motor Vehicles**

PUBLIC 432

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PENDEXTER LINDAHL	OTP-AM OTP-AM ONTP	REP REP REP
		H-181 GERRY S-135 PENDEXTER S-91

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires the use of safety seat belts by motor vehicle operators and passengers 4 years of age or older.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-91) is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. This amendment clarifies that the operator of a vehicle is charged when a violation of seat belt provisions occurs. It creates an exemption for a person with a medical condition that precludes wearing a seat belt. It limits the fine to a maximum of \$50 for a violation of the seat belt provision. This amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-181) adds a referendum provision to the bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-135) adds a provision allowing enforcement of the mandatory seat belt provision for persons 4 years of age and over only when a vehicle is stopped for a suspected violation of another law.

**LD 182 An Act to Increase Safety in Highway Construction and Work Maintenance Areas**

PUBLIC 151  
EMERGENCY

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
O'GARA	OTP-AM	H-239

**SUMMARY**

This bill doubles the amount of the fine normally imposed for a traffic infraction committed in a construction or maintenance area of a public way.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-239) gives the Executive Director of the Maine Turnpike Authority the authority to restrict the speed limit on any portion of the turnpike under construction or maintenance. The amendment specifies that to enforce the reduced speed limits the signs must be standard black and white speed limit signs. It clarifies that a fine imposed for a speeding violation within a construction or maintenance area is double the fine normally imposed for a similar speeding violation in a nonconstruction area. It also adds an emergency preamble, an emergency clause and a fiscal note to the bill.