## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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#### STATE OF MAINE 117TH LEGISLATURE

#### SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# BILL SUMMARIES JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

#### **JUNE 1996**

MEMBERS: Sen. Albert G. Stevens, Jr., Chair Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy Sen. Judy A. Paradis

> Rep. Donald A. Strout, Chair Rep. William B. O'Gara Rep. George F. Ricker Rep. Joseph D. Driscoll Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard Rep. Paul Chartrand Rep. Harry W. Bailey Rep. Wesley Farnum Rep. Charles H. Heino Rep. David A. Lindahl

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# Maine State Legislature OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

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#### ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees June 1996

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

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

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 4, 1996.

#### **Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

#### LD 59 An Act to Repeal the Sensible Transportation Policy Act

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted

BEGLEY ONTP MAJ CAMPBELL OTP-AM MIN

LD 59 proposed to repeal the Sensible Transportation Policy Act, which requires the Department of Transportation, when making planning, capital investment and project decisions, to consider and comply with certain environmental and policy considerations and to establish a procedure for public participation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-439) was the minority report. The amendment updated language in the original bill that was amended by Public Law 1995, chapter 341. It also proposed to repeal additional sections of law that cross-reference the Sensible Transportation Policy Act. The minority report was not accepted.

#### LD 465 An Act to Improve the Local Road Assistance Program

PUBLIC 678

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> <u>Committee Report</u> <u>Amendments Adopted</u>

ROWE OTP-AM H-684

LD 465 proposed to amend the definition of "average miles maintained," which is used to determine state contributions for the Local Road Assistance Program. It proposed requiring an increase in the number of miles for each mile of road with more than 2 lanes. It specified that the additional funding for the wider roads must come from additional appropriations to the Local Road Assistance Program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-684)** proposed use of the term "lane mile" to clarify the extent to which distribution would increase for roads with more than 2 lanes and changed the formula to calculate distribution on a lane-mile basis. It proposed that the change in distribution begin with payments due March 1, 1997.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1995, chapter 678 provides for distribution from the Local Road Assistance Program to be calculated on a lane mile basis, thereby increasing the distribution for roads with more than 2 lanes. The change in distribution begins with payments due March 1, 1997.

### LD 739 An Act to Allow Issuance of Duplicate Registrations for Trailers and Semitrailers

PUBLIC 513

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
STONE OTP-AM H-687

LD 739 proposed allowing businesses that hold current certificates of registration on 4 or more trailers or semitrailers to keep the original certificates in a central location and requiring

businesses that use this provision to keep a photocopy of the certificate of registration in each vehicle.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-687)** replaced the original bill. It proposed allowing a person registering a trailer or semitrailer to be issued a duplicate registration for an additional \$2 fee. It also proposed adding a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1995, chapter 513 allows a person registering a trailer or semitrailer to be issued a duplicate registration for an additional \$2 fee.

### LD 1619 An Act to Repeal the Sunset Provision for Distribution from the Maine Environmental Trust Fund

PUBLIC 508 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s) Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1619 was reported out pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 410, Part BBB, section 6.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1995, chapter 508 repeals the sunset provision for distribution from the Maine Environmental Trust Fund, providing for continuing distribution from the fund at 60% to the Maine State Parks Fund and 40% to the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund.

Chapter 508 was enacted as an emergency measure effective January 29, 1996.

# LD 1639 An Act to Amend Certain Motor Vehicle Laws Including Those Affecting the University of Maine System Plate and the Certificate of Lien

PUBLIC 645 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STROUT	OTP-AM	H-847
STEVENS A		H-852
		H-854
		H-895

LD 1639 proposed several technical and substantive changes to the motor vehicle laws.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-847) proposed technical changes to the original bill and proposed removing provisions relating to primary insurance requirements for consumer rental vehicles. It proposed adding Parts B, C, D and E to the bill . Part B proposed several additional technical and substantive changes to the motor vehicle laws. Part C proposed provisions for a new general issue license plate in July of 1999. Parts D and E proposed allocation sections for the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-852)** proposed allowing the Secretary of State to hold as confidential the driver's license and vehicle registration records at the request of a person providing a copy of a protection order issued to protect the requestor from abuse or harassment.

**House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-854)** proposed the issuance of official state nondriver identification cards to persons 15, 16 and 17 years of age beginning July 1, 1996.