

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

AUGUST 1995

**Staff:**

*Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

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*\*Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333  
Telephone (207) 287-1670  
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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 1032 An Act to Add a \$5 Surcharge to the Fines Collected for All Moving Violations**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RICHARDSON

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have imposed a \$5 surcharge on a person who commits a moving violation to be paid to the law enforcement agency charging the person with the moving violation.

**LD 1045 An Act to Amend Certain Motor Vehicle Laws**

PUBLIC 482

**SPONSOR(S)**  
STROUT

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-637

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the definition of "classic vehicle". It raises the fee for furnishing a report of a driver's record from \$4 to \$5. It clarifies the Secretary of State's ability to cancel a vehicle registration at the request of a registrant. It incorporates federal recommendations for a uniform system regarding disability plates and placards.

It provides that whenever a minimum fine is specified for a violation of rules adopted regarding operating authority, the court may not suspend the fine and must impose at least the minimum fine.

It specifies that for a motor home the "certificate of origin" includes the manufacture's and the chassis manufacturer's certificate of origin. It adds and amends definitions relating to salvage vehicles. It specifies additional information to be included on a certificate of title or certificate of salvage. It gives the Secretary of State discretionary authority over when to suspend or revoke a title and adds "certificate of lien" to the list of documents that the Secretary of State can suspend or revoke.

It allows the Secretary of State to release a lien that is more than 5 1/2 years old and brings Title 29-A into conformance with the requirements of the federal Truth in Mileage Act of 1986. It requires a person to have a vehicle auction license to be engaged in business as an insurance salvage pool. It extends the grounds on which the Secretary of State may deny, revoke or suspend a motor vehicle recycler license.

It clarifies that medical reports received or made by the Secretary of State are confidential. It requires every person to pass the vision portion of the license examination at the time of each 2nd license renewal after attaining 40 years of age and requires those who are 62 and older to pass the vision test at every renewal. It establishes an examination fee of \$10 for the renewal of a hazardous materials endorsement. It raises the additional fee for a duplicate license with a photograph from \$2 to \$3.

It adds OUI violations of the conditional license law to the definition of operating under the influence. It makes failure to obey an order of the Secretary of State relating to a cancellation and failure to surrender a license, certificate of title, certificate of registration, or fuel use decal that has been cancelled a Class E crime.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-637) allows for municipal agents to collect a \$1 fee for certain transactions. It allows the suspension of the registration of a minor when the cancellation request is submitted by the person who signed the registration as parent or legal guardian. It changes the time frame a plate can remain expired before reissuance from 8 months to 6 months. It allows registration fees to be prorated.

It harmonizes the provisions between the Regional Fuel Tax Agreement and the International Fuel Tax Agreement and standardizes Maine operating authority requirements with other states. It clarifies limitations on use of a wrecker registered to a dealer. It allows a student enrolled in an applied technology program as part of a secondary school curriculum to operate heavy equipment.

It adds a gerontologist and allows the Secretary of State to add other medical professionals to the Medical Advisory Board when needed. The amendment also provides for delayed effective dates for certain sections and adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1047 An Act to Allow Towns to Register Vehicles on Loan through the Federal Excess Property Program without Local Title**

PUBLIC 250

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LORD

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-180

**SUMMARY**

This bill provides that a certificate of title or a certificate of salvage is not required for a vehicle owned by the federal government that is loaned to the State or a municipality for forest fire control activities.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-180) allows that exemption to be available at the discretion of the Secretary of State...

**LD 1051 An Act to Allow the Posting of Temporary Signs at Dangerous Intersections**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CARPENTER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed the posting of temporary safety signs on highways to promote cautious driving and to prevent collisions when there is an event or celebration. It also would have allowed the posting of signs on public utility poles as allowed by the utility.

**LD 1075 An Act to Ensure Confidentiality of Motor Vehicle Records**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
HARTNETT

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

Currently motor vehicle and drivers' license records are open to public inspection. This bill would have made these records confidential, allowing access only to law enforcement officers and to representatives of insurance companies when needed to conduct their business. The bill also would have made records of the Maine Turnpike Authority confidential allowing access only to law enforcement officers and to representatives of insurance companies when needed to conduct their business. (See bill summary LD 860).