

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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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 1236 An Act Concerning the Transportation of Crushed Vehicles ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LEMKE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that motor vehicles that have been crushed as part of their disposal process may only be transported on a public way if enclosed on all sides in a solid enclosure.

LD 1255 An Act to Create the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority PUBLIC 374 EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HARRIMAN	OTP-AM MAJ	S-202
O'GARA	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill creates the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority for the general purpose of promoting passenger rail service. This authority is the successor in interest to the Department of Transportation in promoting this service.

The bill authorizes the transfer of existing funds reserved for railroad improvements in Private and Special Law 1991, chapter 113, Part B, section 6 to the authority.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-202) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1297 An Act to Ensure Consistency in the Laws Governing Maine's Roads ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
AULT	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have made changes in state laws relating to the rights and responsibilities of public officers, landowners and members of the public with regard to municipal ways and other rights of public and private access.

LD 1301 An Act to Transfer Oversight of Commercial Driver Education Programs to the Secretary of State UNSIGNED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PENDEXTER	OTP-AM	S-331
BAILEY		

SUMMARY

This bill would repeal the Board of Commercial Driver Education and would relieve the Department of Education of its responsibility to regulate the provisions of driver education in school settings. The bill would also transfer oversight and rule-making authority for all driver education programs to the Secretary of State.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-331) makes several technical changes to the bill. It clarifies the distinction between commercial driver education school and noncommercial driver education school. It clarifies that a licensed driver education teacher or instructor is authorized to teach driver education as an employee or affiliate of a licensed driver education school. It reduces the proposed examination fee for a Class C operator's license examination from \$15 to \$12. Currently, a Class C license exam is \$10. This amendment also adds transition provisions, allocation sections and a fiscal note to the bill. (See bill summary LD 446).

LD 1308 An Act to Require Roll Bars in Emergency Response Vehicles ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MCALLEVEY CAREY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required emergency vehicles, except for fire apparatus, to be equipped with a roll bar.

LD 1312 Resolve, to Create the Maine 175th Anniversary of Statehood License Plate ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ADAMS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This resolve would have created a special commemorative simulated motor vehicle registration plate in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Maine. The plate would have been designed and issued by the Secretary of State and displayed during the rest of 1995 and 1996 in place of the front registration plate on most motor vehicles. Revenue generated by sale of the plate in excess of the cost of production and issuance would have been divided equally among the state cultural agencies.

LD 1323 An Act to Widen the Maine Turnpike PUBLIC 341

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BUTLAND	OTP-AM	S-282

SUMMARY

This bill proposed a referendum for voters to approve widening of the Maine Turnpike.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-282) allows widening of the Maine Turnpike to 3 lanes for each direction of travel from Exit 1 to, and including, Exit 6A. It requires the Maine Turnpike Authority to complete an evaluation of alternatives by December 15, 1996 and specifies that evaluating the alternatives listed satisfies the requirements for alternative evaluation under the Sensible Transportation Policy Act and rules adopted under the Act. It allows a state agency to issue a permit or license for the widening if the completed evaluation indicates alternatives will not meet the identified need.

It requires the Maine Turnpike Authority to submit an interim report on the alternatives evaluation no later than January 15, 1996. It allows the authority to submit legislation no later than January 15, 1996 to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds to pay for the widening.