

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION**

JULY 1997

MEMBERS:

Sen. William B. O'Gara, Chair

Sen. John T. Jenkins

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

Rep. Joseph D. Driscoll, Chair

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 1997

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. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</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/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</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>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</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 finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

LD 78 **An Act to Increase the Fee for Car Inspections** **ONTP**

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

LD 78 proposed to increase the motor vehicle inspection fee from \$6 to \$11.

LD 102 **An Act to Repeal the Mandatory Driver Education Course** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERKINS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 102 proposed to repeal the provision that requires a person under 17 years of age to present a certificate of successful completion of an approved driver education course before a driver's license may be issued.

LD 109 **An Act to Eliminate the Fine for Exceeding the Axle Weight Limit** **ONTP**

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

LD 109 proposed to eliminate the fine for exceeding the axle weight limit.

LD 110 **An Act to Exempt Certain Loaned Federal Vehicles from Certificates of Title** **PUBLIC 100
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANE CATHCART	OTP-AM	H-126

LD 110 proposed to exempt from registration fees and certificate of title requirements vehicles donated by the Federal Government to an approved veterans' organization primarily for use in ceremonial activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-126) proposed to strike from the bill an exemption from registration fees for vehicles donated by the Federal Government to veterans' organizations. In addition, the amendment proposed to permit the Secretary of State to exempt from title and certificate of salvage requirements vehicles that are loaned by the Federal Government to veterans' organizations and municipalities. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 100 permits the Secretary of State to exempt from title and certificate of salvage requirements vehicles that are loaned by the Federal Government to veterans' organizations and municipalities. This law is effective April 18, 1997.

LD 116

An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Fog Lights

PUBLIC 115

Sponsor(s)
LAVERDIERE

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

Under current law, when approaching an oncoming vehicle or following a vehicle, the operator of a motor vehicle must turn off fog lights or auxiliary lights that exceed 20,000 candlepower. LD 116 proposed to expand that requirement to apply to all fog lights and auxiliary lights.

Enacted law summary

Under current law, when approaching an oncoming vehicle or following a vehicle, the operator of a motor vehicle must turn off fog lights or auxiliary lights that exceed 20,000 candlepower. Public Law 1997, chapter 115 expands that requirement to apply to all fog lights and auxiliary lights.

LD 119

**Resolve, to Name a Section of Route 26 in Bethel in Oxford County
in Memory of Captain Carl R. Churchill, United States Air Force,
Killed in Action in Laos, May 3, 1970**

RESOLVE 5

Sponsor(s)
BARTH
FERGUSON

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 119 proposed to name the part of Route 26 in Bethel that goes from the Greenwood-Bethel town line to the junction of the East Bethel Road in memory of Captain Carl R. Churchill, United States Air Force, killed in action May 3, 1970 in Laos.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 5 names the part of Route 26 in Bethel that goes from the Greenwood-Bethel town line to the junction of the East Bethel Road in memory of Captain Carl R. Churchill, United States Air Force, killed in action May 3, 1970 in Laos.