

# 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*

*Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard*

*Rep. Paul Chartrand*

*Rep. Charles D. Fisher*

*Rep. Gary J. Wheeler*

*Rep. David A. Lindahl*

*Rep. Dean F. Clukey*

*Rep. Steven M. Joyce*

*Rep. Christine R. Savage*

*Rep. Robert J. Winglass*

***OPLA Staff:***

*John G. Kelley, Legislative Analyst*

*Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis*

*Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333*

*(207)287-1670*



**Maine State Legislature**

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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](http://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:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*.....*Chapter # 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 IN CONCURRENCE*.....*One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*.....*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Bill failed to get majority vote*
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
- INDEF PP*.....*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*.....*Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*.....*Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*.....*Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

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 124****An Act to Repeal the Rental Fees for Road Signs**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FOSTER	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 124 proposed to repeal the provision for an annual fee for official business directional signs. There would have been only an initial fee.

**LD 150****An Act Regarding the Use of Lights and Sirens on Personal Vehicles Used by Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Personnel**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MORGAN	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 150 proposed to permit municipal and volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel to use a siren and flashing red and amber lights on a personal vehicle while en route to or at the scene of a fire or other emergency. It also proposed to require that such vehicles be covered by the rules of operation applying to authorized emergency vehicles.

**LD 154****An Act to Increase the Population Threshold at Which a Town is Responsible for Maintaining Highways**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LIBBY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 154 proposed to increase the population threshold at which a municipality must maintain certain state highways.

**LD 161****An Act to Require that Cargo Being Hauled by Trucks Be Covered**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAREY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 161 proposed to require operators of gravel trucks to cover the gravel so that the gravel does not fall from the vehicle during transit.