

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

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Maine State Legislature

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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:

- 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 849

An Act to Require Reflectors on Snow Plows

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
SKOGLUND

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 849 proposed to require that snowplows engaged in plowing state or town roads have reflectors on the plow wing that faces oncoming traffic.

LD 868

An Act Regarding the Form of Motorcycle License Plates

PUBLIC 287

Sponsor(s)
PENDLETON P
PINKHAM R

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-180

LD 868 proposed to require motorcycle registration plates to bear the words "Support safety and education."

Committee Amendment "A" (S-180) proposed to require motorcycle plates issued after January 1, 1998 to bear the words "Ride Safe." It proposed to exempt antique and state motorcycle registration plates from this requirement. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 287 requires motorcycle plates issued after January 1, 1998 to bear the words "Ride Safe." It also exempts antique and state motorcycle registration plates from this requirement.

LD 903

An Act to Maintain the Department of Transportation's Current Policy on Reimbursement of Consultant Costs

PUBLIC 52

Sponsor(s)
CLUKEY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-13

LD 903 proposed to allow the Department of Transportation to continue its current practice of establishing guidelines to promote engineering and design quality and to ensure maximum competition by firms providing consultant services. This bill was in response to Section 307 of the 1995 National Highway System Designation Act that requires Maine to enact legislation in order to continue Maine's current policies and practices.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-13) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 52 allows the Department of Transportation to continue its current practice of establishing guidelines to promote engineering and design quality and to ensure maximum competition by firms providing consultant services. This law is in response to Section 307 of the 1995 National Highway System Designation Act that requires Maine to enact legislation in order to continue Maine's current policies and practices.