

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:

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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 963

An Act to Establish the Loon Plate as the Official State License Plate and Establish the Committee to Develop a Decal System for License Plates

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMKE	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 963 proposed to make the loon design currently on the environmental registration plates the design for general issue plates. It also proposed to provide for an optional plate of plain design to be issued upon request. It also proposed to establish the Committee to Develop a Decal System for License Plates to accommodate the demand for specialty plates.

LD 984

Resolve, to Name the New Bridge over the Fore River in Portland

RESOLVE 7

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAXL M RAND	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 984 proposed to require that the recently constructed bridge over the Fore River in Portland be known as the Casco Bay Bridge.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 7 requires that the recently constructed bridge over the Fore River in Portland be known as the Casco Bay Bridge.

LD 1001

An Act to Encourage Organ Donation by Making Information Available through the Secretary of State

PUBLIC 233

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMAIRE RAND	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-260
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LD 1001 proposed to establish a registry to voluntarily list holders of Maine driver's licenses who formally declare their choice to make an anatomical gift upon death. The bill also proposed to require the Secretary of State to provide licensees at the time of initial application or renewal with the information necessary to formally declare a person's choice to make an anatomical gift upon death. The bill also proposed to require the Secretary of State to make available to license holders information regarding organ and tissue donation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-260) proposed to replace the bill and change its title. It proposed to require the Secretary of State to make information on organ and tissue donation available to license applicants and holders and in offices of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 233 requires the Secretary of State to make information on organ and tissue donation available to license applicants and holders and in offices of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

LD 1008 **An Act to Make Allocation for Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 1998** **P & S 28**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-261
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LD 1008 proposed to make allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1998 in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-261) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 28 makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1998 in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

LD 1013 **An Act to Implement Electronic Monitoring for Compliance with the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Laws by 1999 and Make Other Changes in Those Laws** **PUBLIC 165**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-110
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LD 1013 proposed the following.

1. It proposed to require the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to implement an electronic filing system for providing proof of liability insurance or financial responsibility, as required by the motor vehicle financial responsibility laws, by January 1, 1999.
2. It proposed to require that a person convicted of one or more violations of the requirement to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility within a three-year period must provide proof of financial responsibility. Current law imposes this requirement after conviction of two or more violations of the requirement to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility.
3. It proposed to raise the fee for reinstatement of a suspended driver's license or other permit or privilege to operate a motor vehicle from \$25 to \$35 and makes this increase effective October 1, 1997.