

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

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.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-110) proposed to replace the bill and require any person who violates the vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility laws to provide the Secretary of State proof of financial responsibility. It also proposed a system for the electronic filing of vehicle insurance for people who violate the vehicle insurance laws. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 165 requires any person who violates the vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility laws to provide the Secretary of State proof of financial responsibility. It also requires the Secretary of State to develop a system for the electronic filing of vehicle insurance for people who violate the vehicle insurance laws.

LD 1038 **An Act to Require That a Person under 16 Years of Age Wear Protective Headgear when Riding a Bicycle** **ONTP**

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

LD 1038 proposed to authorize the State to promote the health and safety of a person under 16 years of age who is operating a bicycle or is a passenger on a bicycle by requiring that person to wear a bicycle helmet.

LD 1039 **An Act Relating to the Use of Railbeds as Recreational Trails** **ONTP**

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

LD 1039 proposed to require persons to obtain approval by law for the use of active or inactive railbeds as recreational trails. It also proposed to require the person to ensure that certain standards are met in the formation and maintenance of the trails.

LD 1079 **An Act to Create the Cobscook Bay Transit District** **P & S 19**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODWIN	OTP-AM	H-197

LD 1079 proposed to establish a transit district in Cobscook Bay for the purpose of providing ferry service between Eastport and Lubec. It proposed to create an elected nine-member board of directors for the district, with four members from Eastport, four from Lubec and one member from Trescott Township, Whiting, Edmunds Township, Dennysville, Pembroke, Perry or Pleasant Point.