

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

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Sen. John T. Jenkins

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

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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

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.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-197) proposed to strike from the bill all provisions exempting the Cobscook Bay Transit District from taxes. It also proposed to strike the requirement that rates charged by the district be subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 19 establishes a transit district in Cobscook Bay for the purpose of providing ferry service between Eastport and Lubec. It creates 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.

LD 1084 An Act to Allow After-market Window Tinting of Multi-purpose Vehicles PUBLIC 129

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LOVETT AMERO	OTP	

LD 1084 proposed to amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 1916 governing reflective and tinted glass to add a multi-purpose vehicle to the list of vehicles to which the provisions of subsection 1, paragraphs C and D do not apply. It also proposed to define a multi-purpose vehicle.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 129 amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 1916 governing reflective and tinted glass to add a multi-purpose vehicle to the list of vehicles to which the provisions of subsection 1, paragraphs C and D do not apply. It also defines a multi-purpose vehicle.

LD 1086 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Motor Vehicle License Plates for Legislators ONTP

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

LD 1086 proposed to require state officials entitled to a specially designed motor vehicle number plate to pay \$13 for the plate. They could have obtained a second set of plates for \$16.50.