

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORTATION

MAY 1998

*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*

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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:

- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> O'GARA	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-498
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LD 2031 proposed to amend the motor vehicle laws as follows.

1. Add to the list of Parts of 49 Code of Federal Regulations adopted by reference as Maine rules by the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Bureau of State Police 2 additional Parts that had inadvertently not been included to date.
2. Clarify that a center lane clearly marked for turning traffic may not be used for passing.
3. Clarify that a person who a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe has committed or is committing a violation of the motor vehicle laws must provide the person's correct name, address and date of birth to an officer.
4. Prohibit motor vehicle operators from stopping or parking on certain portions of limited-access highways.
5. Prohibit leaving the pavement or the main traveled portion of a way when passing a vehicle on the left.
6. Make the venue for the violation of refusing to sign a Uniform Summons and Complaint or Violation Summons and Complaint the same as the venue for the original violation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-498)** proposed to:

1. Amend the definition of antique auto.
2. Add to the motor vehicle laws a definition of "motorized wheelchair."
3. Provide an exemption to the requirement that vehicle operators turn off fog lights and auxiliary lights when approaching or following another if the lights are installed at the time of manufacture.
4. Prohibit a person traveling on a limited-access highway from parking a vehicle on a traffic lane, deceleration lane, acceleration lane, or on a bridge or on the left shoulder of the traffic lanes.

#### ***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 653 amends the motor vehicle laws as follows:

1. It adds to the list of Parts of 49 Code of Federal Regulations adopted by reference as Maine rules by the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Bureau of State Police 2 additional Parts that had inadvertently not been included to date.
2. It clarifies that a center lane clearly marked for turning traffic may not be used for passing.

3. It clarifies that a person who a law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe has committed or is committing a violation of the motor vehicle laws must provide the person's correct name, address and date of birth to an officer.
4. It prohibits leaving the pavement or the main traveled portion of a way when passing a vehicle on the left.
5. It makes the venue for the violation of refusing to sign a Uniform Summons and Complaint or Violation Summons and Complaint the same as the venue for the original violation.
6. It amends the definition of antique auto.
7. It adds to the motor vehicle laws a definition of "motorized wheelchair."
8. It provides an exemption to the requirement that vehicle operators turn off fog lights and auxiliary lights when approaching or following another if the lights are installed at the time of manufacture.
9. It prohibits a person traveling on a limited-access highway from parking a vehicle on a traffic lane, deceleration lane, acceleration lane, or on a bridge or on the left shoulder of the traffic lanes.

**LD 2037**                      **Resolve, Requiring the Department of Transportation to Construct a Full-service Rest Area on Interstate 95 30 Miles North of the Medway Rest Area**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 2037 proposed to direct the Department of Transportation to construct and maintain a full-service rest area on Interstate 95 30 miles north of the rest area in Medway.

**LD 2039**                      **Resolve, to Name the East Outlet Bridge the Richard Francis Lavigne Bridge**                      **RESOLVE 89**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JONES SL HALL	OTP	

LD 2039 proposed to rename the East Outlet Bridge on Route 15 in Sapling Township the Richard Francis Lavigne Bridge. Richard Francis Lavigne, of Greenville, was the first Moosehead Lake area casualty during World War II.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1997, chapter 89 renames the East Outlet Bridge on Route 15 in Sapling Township the Richard Francis Lavigne Bridge. Richard Francis Lavigne, of Greenville, was the first Moosehead Lake area casualty during World War II.