

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
Rep. Charles D. Fisher
Rep. Gary J. Wheeler
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Rep. Steven M. Joyce
Rep. Christine R. Savage
Rep. Robert J. Winglass

Staff:

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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).

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.

LD 2055 **An Act Regarding the Delayed Reregistration of Certain Trucks** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BARTH		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2055 proposed to allow the proration of certain truck registration fees when a truck is removed from service for a period of time.

LD 2066 **Resolve, Concerning Highway Construction in Aroostook County** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PARADIS DONNELLY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2066 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to make and perform certain maintenance and construction along Route 11 in Aroostook County and Penobscot County and along Route 1 in Aroostook County.

LD 2109 **An Act to Reduce Motor Vehicle Fatalities and Injuries among Young Drivers** **PUBLIC 737**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MURRAY		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-1017 DRISCOLL S-563
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LD 2109 proposed to:

1. Increase from 16 years to 17 years the age for which driver education is necessary to obtain a license;
2. Raise from 18 years to 20 years the minimum age of the licensed driver who may supervise a driver permit holder during the permit period;
3. Require a driver permit holder to drive a minimum of 35 hours with a licensed operator, 20 years or older, during the permit period in order to obtain the experience needed to safely operate a vehicle. At least 5 of the 35 hours would need to be night driving. Licensed operators would be required to certify the number of hours of driving the permittee operated the vehicle with the licensed operator. A parent or guardian would be required to certify the permittee's completion of the additional 35 hours of required driving time;
4. Limit the number of passengers in a vehicle operated by a person under 21 years of age to the number of seatbelts in the vehicle;
5. Add an increased penalty of a 275-day license suspension for persons aged 21 years or older who operate a motor vehicle under the influence with juveniles under the age of 21 years;