

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. William B. O'Gara, Chair

Sen. Judy Paradis

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr., Chair

Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard

Rep. Charles D. Fisher

Rep. Gary J. Wheeler

Rep. Laura J. Sanborn

Rep. David A. Lindahl

Rep. Christine R. Savage

Rep. Robert A. Cameron

Rep. Edgar Wheeler

Rep. Ronald F. Collins

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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:

CARRIED OVER..... *Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
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*
ENACTMENT FAILED..... *Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage*
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... *Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-199) proposed to replace the bill and to increase the fine for standing or walking on a railroad track or railroad bridge from \$5 to \$20 per violation to \$5 to \$100 for the first offense, \$100 to \$500 for a second offense and \$500 to \$1000 for a 3rd and subsequent offenses. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 318, increases the fine for standing or walking on a railroad track or railroad bridge from \$5 to \$20 per violation to \$5 to \$100 for the first offense, \$100 to \$500 for a second offense and \$500 to \$1000 for a 3rd and subsequent offenses.

LD 76 **An Act to Eliminate the Fee Charged for Certain State Audits** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLARK	ONTP MAJ	
CASSIDY	OTP MIN	

LD 76 proposed to eliminate any fee charged an automobile dealer by the State to inspect the dealer's records.

LD 81 **An Act to Prohibit the Use of Hand-held Phones by Operators of Moving Motor Vehicles** **ONTP**

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

LD 81 proposed to make it a traffic infraction for a person to use a hand-held telephone while operating a motor vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-179), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, proposed to replace and change the title of the bill, and require the Chief of the State Police to include information on a motor vehicle accident report as to whether or not the use of a cellular or car phone by a motor vehicle operator contributed to or was a factor in an accident. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 140 **An Act to Require Insurance Companies to Notify the Secretary of State When the Insurance on a Registered Vehicle has Lapsed** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDOUGALL	ONTP MAJ	
MACKINNON	OTP MIN	

LD 140 proposed to require insurance companies to notify the Secretary of State if an insured person allows the insurance to lapse on a motor vehicle.