

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:

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Sen. Judy Paradis

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr., Chair

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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.

Public Law 1999, chapter 41, allows an employee of a police or sheriff's department designated by the chief law enforcement officer of the department to issue a permit to tow an unregistered motor vehicle or to operate an uninspected motor vehicle to an inspection station for inspection.

LD 351

An Act to Include Marine Products on Roadside Signs

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

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

LD 351 proposed to allow sellers of marine products to post seasonal roadside signs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-200) proposed to limit the eligibility for roadside signs advertising marine products to businesses that produce and sell the marine products on their premises and to allow those businesses to erect only signs that advertise marine products sold for human consumption. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-130) proposed to allow a seller to erect signs advertising products produced or sold on the seller's premises, as in the original bill. This amendment also proposed to restrict a seller to erecting signs as proposed in the bill or using official business directional signs, but not both.

LD 362

An Act to Require Written Explanation from the Department of Transportation When a Municipal Request to Change a Speed Limit is Denied

PUBLIC 160

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHEELER G PENDLETON	OTP-AM	H-236

LD 362 proposed to transfer authority for setting speed limits in municipalities from the Department of Transportation to municipalities, except for the interstate highway system or the Maine Turnpike. The bill also proposed to allow municipalities to establish passing and no-passing zones.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-236) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Transportation to explain in writing why a municipal request to change a speed limit was denied by the department and requires the department to offer to meet with the municipal officials in that municipality to explain the reasons for that denial. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 160, requires the Department of Transportation to explain in writing why a municipal request to change a speed limit was denied by the department and requires the department to offer to meet with the municipal officials in that municipality to explain the reasons for that denial.