# 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

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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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
	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE	One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
	Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final pasage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY	
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	
OTP ND	
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	
P&S XXX	
PUBLIC XXX	
RESOLVE XXX	
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.

#### LD 502

## An Act to Amend the Fines for Operating an Uninspected or Unregistered Vehicle

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) SNOWE-MELLO HARRIMAN Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 502 proposed to make operating a motor vehicle with an invalid inspection sticker and operating a motor vehicle with an expired registration traffic infractions with a graduated schedule of forfeitures. The bill also proposed to prohibit the Secretary of State from assessing points against the violator's motor vehicle operator's license for a first-time offense but to assess points for a second violation if it occurs within two years of the first violation. This bill proposed that committing the same infraction three times within a 10-year period be a Class E crime punishable with a 30-day suspension of the violator's motor vehicle operator's license.

#### LD 509 An Act to Promote Highway Safety

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)
NUTTING I

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 509 proposed that the Secretary of State issue placards with a red "L" to all newly licensed drivers and that those drivers display the placard in the top left corner of the rear window of the newly licensed driver's motor vehicle for six months after issuance of the license.

## LD 518 Resolve, to Build Interchanges from the Maine Turnpike to Lincoln and Grove Streets in Lewiston

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) MENDROS Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 518 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority construct interchanges to allow motorists to enter and exit the turnpike from Lincoln Street and Grove Street in Lewiston.

LD 527

An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2000

P & S 19

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report OTP-AM Amendments Adopted H-237

LD 527 proposed allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2000 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-237) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 19, enacts the Turnpike Authority's budget for FY 2000.

LD 537 An Act to Appropriate Money to Extend Water Lines to Families in Gorham Whose Wells Were Polluted by Highway Construction Activity

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 MILLS
 ONTP

LD 537 proposed to allocate \$280,000 to the Department of Transportation in fiscal year 1999-00 to defray the costs of extending water lines to a housing development in Gorham where residential wells have been polluted by the rupture of a chemical holding tank, caused by blasting activity during highway construction undertaken by the Department of Transportation.

#### LD 539 An Act to Establish a Citizen Road Watch Program

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 DOUGLASS
 ONTP

 COTE

LD 539 proposed that the Bureau of State Police install and operate a toll-free line for receiving reports of motor vehicles being driven in a manner that endangers people. The bill proposed that the bureau work with the Department of Transportation to develop signs and public service announcements to make the public aware of a citizen road watch program.

## LD 552 An Act to Change the Minimum Time for Issuing a Temporary Registered Gross Weight Increase from 2 Months to One Month

PUBLIC 466

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedWHEELER EOTP-AMH-178CASSIDY

LD 552 proposed to change the minimum time for issuing temporary gross weight licenses from 2 months to one month.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-178) proposed to adds a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 466, changes the minimum time for issuing temporary gross weight licenses from 2 months to one month.