

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

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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.

Part I: appropriate funds from the General Fund to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to properly reflect the distribution of gasoline tax set aside required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903-B.

Part J: assess an additional annual \$2 fee on registration fees for environmental registration plates, University of Maine System plates, antique vehicle registration plates, temporary registration plates, motor vehicles, commercial motor vehicles, farm trucks, motor homes, truck campers, trailers and semitrailers, special mobile equipment, motorcycles and parking control vehicles, stock cars, emergency vehicles, firefighter registration plates, specialty equipment, disability registration plates, special veterans registration plates and veterans vanity plates.

Part K: allocate funds from the Highway Fund.

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "C" (H-755) proposed to clarify that a person is subject only to an additional \$2 fee payable at the time of registration for each vehicle registered.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 473, enacts as law the provisions of Committee amendment "C" as amended by House Amendment "B".

Chapter 473 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

LD 958

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and Highway Funds and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001

**PUBLIC 152
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JABAR O'GARA	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-255
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LD 958 proposed the Part I biennial Highway Fund Budget does the following.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-255) proposed several amendments to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 152, does the following:

Part A allocates and appropriates funds for current services for the 2000-2001 biennium.

Part B makes allocations from the Highway Fund as adjustments to the amounts in Part A. Part B also makes additional allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund.

Part C allocates funds from the Highway Fund to provide funding for approved reclassifications.

Part D deallocates funds from the Highway Fund to pay for approved reclassifications.

Part E provides that employees of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, solely for the purposes of participating in the retirement and health insurance programs that apply to state employees, come under the state employee retirement provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, Part 20 and the state employee health insurance program of Title 5, chapter 13, subchapter II.

Part F repeals language regarding gubernatorial appointments to the Travel Information Advisory Council. The repealed language addresses appointments that have long since expired.

Part G clarifies that the Adopt-A-Highway Program is allowed on town ways. It also makes clear that Adopt-A-Highway Program signs are allowed as categorical signs pursuant to the Traveler Services Information Act.

Part H waives the requirement that the Department of Transportation report to the Legislature on the permitting of experimental vehicles if there has been no such activity during the report period.

Part I deletes the requirement that the Maine Aeronautical Advisory Board submit a written annual report to the Commissioner of Transportation.

Chapter 152 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 11, 1999.

LD 965 **An Act to Require the State to Reimburse Licensed Vehicle Inspection Stations for Unused Inspection Stickers** **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KASPRZAK	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-147

LD 965 proposed to allow inspection stations to receive a refund for all unused inspection stickers. Current law provided that refunds or exchanges may only be made for full sheets of unused stickers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-147) was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and proposed that the State Police credit inspection stations for unused or expired inspection stickers. The amendment also proposed to add an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 977 **An Act to Improve Motorcycle Safety** **ONTP**

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

LD 977 proposed that a person applying for a motorcycle instruction permit must possess a valid motor vehicle operator's license. This bill also proposed to prohibit a person with a motorcycle permit from operating a motorcycle with a passenger.

LD 998 **An Act to Preserve and Improve Public Access to Inland and Coastal Waters** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARRIMAN SAXL M	ONTP	