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	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
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.

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

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

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

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
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

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
HARRIMAN	ONTP	_
SAXL M		

LD 998 proposed to create a Recreational Access Committee to provide direction to the Commissioner of Transportation on improvements to state roads and bridges to allow for safe access for recreation and fishing.

LD 1005 An Act to Equalize Tolls

ONTP

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 SHIELDS
 ONTP

LD 1005 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority structure its toll rates so that the toll charged for traveling to and from Augusta on either Interstate 95 or Interstate 495 is equal.

LD 1009 An Act to Require Notification of Motor Vehicle Registration Expiration

ONTP

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 ETNIER
 ONTP

LD 1009 proposed that the Secretary of State notify the owner of a motor vehicle of the registration expiration date.

LD 1020 An Act to Improve Cultural Information on the Interstate

ONTP

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedCOWGERONTPDAGGETT

LD 1020 proposed to construct a sign near Exit 30 informing travelers of the Maine State Capitol and the Maine State Museum.

LD 1032 An Act to Require Motor Vehicles to Stop for All Pedestrians in a Marked Crosswalk

PUBLIC 101

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedSTEVENSOTP-AMH-124

LD 1032 proposed that the operators of motor vehicles stop for a pedestrian when that pedestrian is within any part of a crosswalk that is not regulated by a traffic-control device.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-124) proposed to clarify that the requirement to stop for pedestrians applies to pedestrians within a "marked crosswalk". The amendment also proposed to change the title of the bill to reflect that intent and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary