

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

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Rep. Robert A. Cameron

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Rep. Ronald F. Collins

Staff:

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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
ONT P..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OT P ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OT P 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 101 requires operators of motor vehicles to stop for pedestrians within any part of a marked crosswalk that is not regulated by a traffic-control device.

LD 1034 **Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Repair Route 2 Between Skowhegan and Newport** **ONTP**

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

LD 1034 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to repair Route 2 between Skowhegan and Newport by January 1, 2002.

LD 1040 **An Act to Allow all Fines Collected by the Maine Court System as a Result of Evasion of Fare Laws to be Transferred to the Maine Turnpike Authority** **ONTP**

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

LD 1040 proposed to require a court to transfer to the Maine Turnpike Authority the proceeds received by the court from a penalty for failure to pay a toll. The bill also proposed to allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to transfer up to 20% of these proceeds back to the court.

LD 1071 **An Act Requiring Notification of Violation to Motor Carriers** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA	ONTP	
KNEELAND		

LD 1071 proposed to require that a motor carrier be notified if that person is cited for a motor vehicle violation or identified as the responsible motor carrier on a summons, complaint or motor carrier compliance report.

LD 1076 **An Act to Simplify the Process of Claiming Abandoned Vehicles** **PUBLIC 137**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY	OTP-AM	S-76
MCALEVEY		

LD 1076 proposed to eliminate current provisions in law pertaining to abandoned vehicles. The bill proposed to repeal requirements for publishing a notice if the owner of an abandoned vehicle is unknown and waiting 14 days before seeking a change in ownership from the Secretary of State and to repeal a requirement for sending notice by certified

mail to a known owner of an abandoned vehicle. The bill also proposed that the person mailing the notice would no longer be required to wait 14 days after mailing the notice to seek a change in ownership from the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-76) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to remove the requirement that the person claiming an abandoned vehicle send a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and lienholder, if any. The Secretary of State, on proper notification, would be required to write the letter formally notifying the current owner. This amendment also proposed to require only one newspaper advertisement when the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Motor Vehicles can not find any record of an owner or lienholder for a vehicle. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 137 removes the requirement that the person claiming an abandoned vehicle send a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and lienholder, if any. The Secretary of State, on proper notification, is required to write a letter formally notifying the current owner and to post one newspaper advertisement when the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Motor Vehicles can not find any record of an owner or lienholder for a vehicle.

LD 1099

An Act to Exempt the Requirement that All Municipal Taxes Be Paid in Advance of Moving a Mobile Home

PUBLIC 125

Sponsor(s)
TESSIER
HARRIMAN

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-176

LD 1099 proposed to exempt a person from the requirement of having to pay all types of municipal taxes on a mobile home before moving the mobile home if the person is moving the mobile home from one location in a municipality to another location within the same municipality.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-176) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to allow a municipality to waive the requirement that local taxes on a mobile home be paid prior to obtaining an overlimit movement permit if the home is being moved to another location in the same town for reasons not related to the sale of the home.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 125 allows a municipality to waive the requirement that local taxes on a mobile home be paid prior to obtaining an overlimit movement permit if the home is being moved to another location in the same town for reasons not related to the sale of the home.

LD 1100

An Act to Improve the Enforcement of Traffic Laws

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
NORBERT

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1100 proposed a 20% surcharge on traffic fines and forfeitures and to remit that amount to the political subdivision issuing the traffic summons. It also proposed to remit 50% of any increases in fines and forfeitures collected after October 1, 1999 to the political subdivision issuing the traffic summons.