

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

Staff:

Patrick Norton, Principal Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

LD 1579

An Act to Evaluate the Compensation of Members of the Maine Turnpike Authority

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHEELER G PARADIS		

LD 1579 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to establish a mechanism to evaluate and change the compensation of members of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

LD 1612

An Act to Clarify Language in the Motor Vehicle Laws with Respect to Farm Equipment

ONTP

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

LD 1612 proposed to clarify that equipment dealer plates and a license may be issued to manufacturers of or dealers in motorized farm equipment, but that dealers of nonmotorized farm equipment do not require dealer plates or licenses.

LD 1633

An Act to Create a Transporter License Plate for Light Trailers

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 1633 proposes to establish transporter plates and licenses to allow a business to transport an unregistered light trailer. A light trailer is a trailer or semi-trailer with an unladen gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less.

LD 1637

An Act Regarding the Boundaries of State and State Aid Highways

PUBLIC 188

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA JABAR	OTP-AM	S-108

LD 1637 proposed to establish a method for determining the boundaries of state or state aid highways in cases where there is no recorded layout of the highway or in cases where the boundary is uncertain and for transferring to abutting property owners any interest that may pass to the Department of Transportation upon the discontinuance by a town or county, of a way that has been reconstructed by the department. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-108) proposed to make a series of technical corrections and clarifications to the bill and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 188, establishes a method for determining the boundaries of state or state aid highways in cases where there is no recorded layout of the highway or in cases where the boundary is uncertain and for transferring to abutting property owners any interest that may pass to the Department of Transportation upon the discontinuance by a town or county, of a way that has been reconstructed by the department.

LD 1638

Resolve, to Review Traffic Congestion Including Truck Traffic along the Route 1 York Corridor and Route 236 Corridor

**RESOLVE 64
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM MAJ	S-117
WHEELER G	ONTP MIN	S-463 MICHAUD

LD 1638 proposed to establish a study commission to review traffic congestion and related environmental problems along the U. S. Route 1 corridor and area roadways in the York County area and make recommendations to reduce traffic congestion.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-117) proposed to clarify that the study report is to go to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and to the Commissioner of Transportation and to add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-463) proposed to expand the subject of the study to include traffic congestion along the Route 236 corridor between Kittery and Berwick, delete the authorization for legislative per diem for public members and revise the membership to include one representative of each of the following towns, appointed by the manager of each town: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells and York.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 64 establishes a study commission to review traffic congestion and related environmental problems along the U. S. Route 1 corridor and area roadways in the York County area and traffic congestion along the Route 236 corridor between Kittery and Berwick.

Chapter 64 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

LD 1639

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Maine State Pilotage Commission

**PUBLIC 355
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA	OTP-AM	S-168
JABAR		

LD 1639 proposed several changes to the laws pertaining to harbor pilots. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-168) proposed to add a definition of the term "actively piloting," specify that only three of the seven members of the Maine Pilotage Commission may be licensed pilots and add provisions limiting the personal liability of pilots for damages to not more than \$5,000, except for damages or loss arising from the intentional, willful or reckless misconduct of the pilot.

Enacted law summary