

# 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*

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*Rep. David A. Lindahl*

*Rep. Christine R. Savage*

*Rep. Robert A. Cameron*

*Rep. Edgar Wheeler*

*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](http://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.

21. It clarifies that motor vehicles that are required by law to be registered in the State are subject to the same minimum insurance requirements as cars that are registered in the State.
22. It prohibit the sale or distribution of digital image information, graphic designs and security components contained in a driver's license.
23. It changes recycler licenses from calendar-year licenses to 12-month licenses.
24. It allows semitrailers registered in another jurisdiction to be titled in this State.
25. It allows the Secretary of State to issue a temporary 90-day facsimile plate to persons who have reserved their plate numbers to allow for the reserved plate to be manufactured.

Chapter 470 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

## LD 1680

### An Act to Require the Equitable Taxation of Motor Vehicles

ONTP

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

LD 1680 proposed to allow a person to transfer the title of a vehicle to any other person whose name appears on the registration certificate without that transaction being considered a new registration.

## LD 1690

### An Act Regulating the Transportation of People in Pickup Trucks

PUBLIC 311

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRUNO	OTP-AM	H-239 H-289 WHEELER G

LD 1690 proposed to regulate the transportation of people and dogs in pickup trucks to ensure the safety of the passengers and animals by restricting a person under 19 years of age, with some exemptions, to riding in the passenger compartment of a pickup truck. The bill also proposed certain conditions and restrictions on the transportation of dogs in pickup trucks.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-239)** proposed to remove from the bill all provisions pertaining to dogs and to change the title of the bill to reflect that change. The amendment also proposed to strike two exceptions proposed in the bill and to clarify that the exception for workers and trainees includes agricultural workers and trainees. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-289)** proposed to add an exception to the bill's prohibition on persons under 19 years of age riding in the back of a pickup truck for licensed hunters who are being transported to or from a hunting location, provided they are in compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to the possession and transportation of firearms in a motor vehicle.

#### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 311 requires a person under 19 years of age to ride in the passenger compartment of a pickup truck. An exception is provided for workers and trainees, including agricultural workers and trainees engaged in work

related duties, participants in parades, people secured with a seat belt in manufacturer-installed seat located outside the passenger compartment and licensed hunters who are being transported to or from a hunting location who are in compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to the possession and transportation of firearms in a motor vehicle.

**LD 1739**

**An Act Relating to New and Used Car Document Fees**

**PUBLIC 211**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCGLOCKLIN PENDLETON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-240
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LD 1739 proposed to prohibit a motor vehicle dealer from charging more than \$25 for document preparation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-240)** proposed to replace the bill and to require new and used car dealers to post their document preparation fees on each vehicle offered for sale. The amendment proposed that a dealer who violates this provision commits an unfair trade practice.

The amendment also proposed technical corrections to the bill and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 211 requires new and used car dealers to post their document preparation fees on each vehicle offered for sale and makes a violation of that requirement an unfair trade practice.

**LD 1746**

**An Act to Amend the Definition of Bicycle to Promote Road Safety**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCKEE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1746 proposed to amend the definition of bicycle under the motor vehicle laws to clarify which vehicles are subject to the rules of the road.

**LD 1754**

**An Act to Establish a Speed Limit at Toll Plaza Approaches on the  
Maine Turnpike**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TUTTLE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1754 proposed to establish a speed limit of five miles per hour in toll plazas on the Maine Turnpike.