

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

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Maine State Legislature
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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.

LD 2135

An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999

**P & S 12
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA JABAR	OTP-AM	S-116

LD 2135 proposed to make supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund, make supplemental allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund and authorize the State Controller to transfer funds from the fiscal year 1998-99 year-end balance to the Highway and Bridge Improvement program in the Department of Transportation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-116) proposed that the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services implement modified accrual for the fuel tax line of the Highway Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. The amendment also proposed an additional Other Special Revenue allocation to the Highway Maintenance program within the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 1998-99 and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 12, makes supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund, makes supplemental allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund, authorizes the State Controller to transfer funds from the fiscal year 1998-99 year-end balance to the Highway and Bridge Improvement program in the Department of Transportation and directs the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to implement modified accrual for the fuel tax line of the Highway Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. This law also provides an additional Other Special Revenue allocation to the Highway Maintenance program within the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 1998-99.

Chapter 12 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 10, 1999.

LD 2139

An Act to Allow Authorized Emergency Vehicles to Display a Blue Light on the Rear of the Vehicle

ONTP

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

LD 2139 proposed to allow a blue light to be mounted on authorized emergency vehicles.

LD 2146

An Act to Exempt from Registration Agricultural Motor Vehicles

ONTP

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

LD 2146 proposed to exempt from registration motor vehicles used solely for farming purposes that are operated to or from the premises where the motor vehicle is kept, a farm lot and between farm lots or a filling station or garage for fuel or repairs. The bill proposed that the motor vehicle may not be operated in excess of 35 miles per hour, on a road with a

posted speed limit of over 45 miles per hour or further than five miles from the main entrance of the farm and that the motor vehicle does not need to meet the inspection standards for registered vehicles. The bill proposed that the motor vehicle may be operated on a public way only during daytime hours from May 1st to October 31st.

LD 2149

An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Title Laws

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WHEELER G O'GARA		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2149 proposes to amend the motor vehicle title laws as follows.

1. It distinguishes between a salvage vehicle that may be rebuilt for highway use and a total loss vehicle that is unrebuildable and is suitable for parts only. A total loss vehicle may not be registered or retitled.
2. It combines the various certificates issued by the department under one definition unless the context indicates otherwise.
3. It specifies that, once a vehicle is declared a "salvage vehicle," the prior certificate of title must be surrendered prior to issuance of salvage title.
4. It specifies that, once a vehicle is declared a "total loss," the prior certificate of title or certificate of salvage must be surrendered prior to issuance of a certificate of total loss.
5. It clarifies what information must be or may be on a certificate.
6. It allows the Secretary of State to withdraw an application for a certificate for just cause.
7. It clarifies the procedure for obtaining a duplicate title.
8. It clarifies that a dealer needs a release of lien on any certificate.
9. It specifies that a total loss that is sold or displayed at auction must be accompanied by a certificate of total loss.
10. It specifies that a total loss vehicle can not be registered or retitled in the State.
11. It clarifies what the insurer and the owner must do with a salvage vehicle.
12. It clarifies what a recycler must do to obtain a certificate of salvage or total loss.
13. It specifies the legends that must appear on certificates issued for salvage vehicles, total losses and rebuilt salvage vehicles.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Secretary of State.