

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TRANSPORTATION**

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Judy A. Paradis

Sen. Vinton E. Cassidy

Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr., Chair

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Staff:

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

LD 1579

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

ONTP

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

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

LD 1633

An Act to Create a Transporter License Plate for Light Trailers

ONTP

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

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

LD 2149

An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Title Laws

ONTP

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

LD 2149 proposed to amend the motor vehicle title laws as follows:

1. It distinguished between a salvage vehicle that may be rebuilt for highway use and a total loss vehicle that is not able to be rebuilt and is suitable for parts only. A total loss vehicle would not be able to be registered or retitled.
2. It combined the various certificates issued by the department under one definition unless the context indicated otherwise.
3. It specified that, once a vehicle was declared a "salvage vehicle," the prior certificate of title would be surrendered prior to issuance of salvage title.
4. It specified that, once a vehicle was declared a "total loss," the prior certificate of title or certificate of salvage was required to be surrendered prior to issuance of a certificate of total loss.
5. It clarified the information that would have been required on a certificate.
6. It allowed the Secretary of State to withdraw an application for a certificate for just cause.

7. It clarified the procedure for obtaining a duplicate title.
8. It clarified that a dealer needed a release of lien on any certificate.
9. It specified that a vehicle that was total loss that was sold or displayed at auction was required to be accompanied by a certificate of total loss.
10. It specified that a total loss vehicle could not be registered or retitled in the State.
11. It clarified what the insurer and the owner had to do with a salvage vehicle.
12. It clarified what a recycler had to do to obtain a certificate of salvage or total loss.
13. It specified the legends that had to appear on certificates issued for salvage vehicles, total losses and rebuilt salvage vehicles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-379) proposed to exempt commercial vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or more from the provisions of the bill that prohibited vehicles from being rebuilt for highway use after sustaining damages equivalent to 80% or more of the fair market value of the vehicle.

LD 2171 **Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to Build a Truck Escape Ramp on Route 16 in Bingham** **ONTP**

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

LD 2171 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to construct on Route 16 in Bingham, a truck escape ramp to slow and stop away from the main stream of traffic out of control vehicles that had lost the ability to brake and stop.

LD 2208 **An Act to Remove Restrictions on Changeable Signs** **ONTP**

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

LD 2208 proposed to repeal the prohibition against on-premise moving signs and remove the restrictions on changeable signs.