

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:

Sen. William B. O'Gara, Chair

Sen. Judy A. 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

Rep. Edgar Wheeler

Rep. Ronald F. Collins

Staff:

Gro Flatebo, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

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
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 2450 proposed to restrict new drivers under 21 years of age from transporting passengers other than family members for the first 90 days of their license unless another person 21 years of age or older is also in the vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-847) proposed to prohibit a newly licensed driver under 21 years of age from carrying passengers that are not immediate family members, unless the driver is operating under the same requirements as the instructional permit. This prohibition would be in effect for 90 days after license issuance. It was proposed that this requirement take effect August 1, 2000.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-902) would have provided that a person under 19 years of age who has been issued a driver's license could not carry passengers other than immediate family members unless accompanied by a licensed operator who meets certain requirements for a period of 90 days from license issuance. Committee Amendment "A" would have provided that this restriction applies to a person under 21 years of age.

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-904) proposed to provide that a person under 18 years of age who has been issued a driver's license could not carry passengers other than immediate family members unless accompanied by a licensed operator who meets certain requirements for a period of 90 days from license issuance.

House Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-967) would have permitted a person under 21 years of age who has been issued a driver's license to carry passengers other than immediate family members within the restricted period if each passenger has written permission in the motor vehicle from that passenger's parent or guardian to travel with that driver.

House Amendment "D" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-973) would have permitted a person under 18 years of age issued a driver's license to carry passengers other than immediate family members within the restricted period if each passenger has written permission in the motor vehicle from that passenger's parent or guardian to travel with that driver.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-563) would have changed the restriction period during which passengers may not be carried in a vehicle operated by a person under 21 years of age from 90 days to 30 days following license issuance.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-564) proposed to include in the definition of "immediate family member" a child, stepchild or other child for whom the person is a legal guardian or custodian to allow those persons to be passengers in vehicles driven by a person under 21 years of age who has been licensed for less than 90 days.

Senate Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-565) would have provided that a person under 18 years of age who has been issued a driver's license may not carry passengers other than immediate family members unless accompanied by a licensed operator who meets certain requirements for a period of 90 days from license issuance.

Senate Amendment "D" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-609) proposed to include in the definition of "immediate family member" a child or spouse.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 674 restricts the passengers a driver under the age of 18 can carry for the first 90 days of licensure. Only members of the driver's immediate family or those qualified to accompany a driver with an instruction permit are allowed in the vehicle.

LD 2472

An Act to Increase the Penalty for Leaving the Scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident

PUBLIC 670

Sponsor(s)
BENNETT

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-615

LD 2472 proposed to increase the classification of the crime of leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident involving death or personal injury to a Class C crime from a Class D crime.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-615) proposed to create an aggravated punishment category for leaving the scene of an accident when serious bodily injury or death occurs. Specifically, the amendment proposed to make the crime of leaving an accident a Class C crime if a person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to comply with the current statute that requires stopping at the scene and providing certain information and the accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or death.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 670 creates an aggravated punishment category for leaving the scene of an accident when serious bodily injury or death occurs. Specifically, this law makes the crime of leaving an accident a Class C crime if a person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to comply with the current statute that requires stopping at the scene and providing certain information and the accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or death.

LD 2489

An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2001

P & S 67

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted
S-491 O'GARA

LD 2489 proposed to make allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2001 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-491) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.