

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

Rep. Laura J. Sanborn

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
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

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.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 67 makes 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.

LD 2517 An Act to Fund the Local and State Share of Minor Collector Road Reconstruction ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL B	ONTP MAJ	
WHEELER E	OTP MIN	

LD 2517 proposed to allow the municipal responsibility for contributing to minor collector capital projects, normally financed from the Rural Road Initiative, to be met by use of General Fund money appropriated for that purpose. The Commissioner of Transportation would have been required to ensure equitable distribution of the funds to those municipalities with a low property tax valuation.

LD 2521 An Act to Promote Safe Mobility for Maine's Aging Population through Education and Community-based, Economically Sustainable Alternative Transportation INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROWE	OTP-AM MAJ	
PARADIS	ONTP MIN	

LD 2521 proposed to create a program within the Department of the Secretary of State to educate the general public, public officials and health and social service personnel about the age-related changes that can impact a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. The bill also would have appropriated funds to the State Planning Office to create a consumer-oriented, community-based, economically sustainable transportation service for seniors who limit or stop driving.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-933) proposed to retain the program on age-related changes.

The amendment also proposed to appropriate funds to the Executive Department, State Planning Office to establish the Innovative Senior Transportation Program to develop a consumer-oriented, community-based, economically sustainable transportation service for seniors who limit or stop driving. The amendment also would have required a study of unmet senior transportation needs and directs that a report containing findings and recommendations be submitted to the Legislature by December 15, 2000. The amendment proposed to appropriate funds to provide transportation services for seniors with priority health care service needs.

House Amendment "A" (H-1001) proposed to strike the bill and replace it with an appropriation section to provide additional funds for existing senior transportation programs.