

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

August 2001

Members:

Sen. Christine R. Savage, Chair

Sen. William B. O'Gara

Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon

Rep. Charles D. Fisher

Rep. Gerald N. Bouffard

Rep. Gary J. Wheeler

Rep. George H. Bunker, Jr.

Rep. Boyd P. Marley

Rep. Rosaire Paradis, Jr.

Rep. Edgar Wheeler

Rep. Ronald F. Collins

Rep. Terrence P. McKenney

Rep. Deborah K. McNeil

Staff:

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**120th Legislature
First Regular Session**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

business accompanies the vehicle transporting the light trailer. Trailer transit licenses would be exempt from the provision of law that governs the term of a dealer license.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 149 establishes a light trailer transit plate and license to allow a business to transport an unregistered light trailer. A light trailer may be transported with a light trailer transit plate only if the business owner or an employee of the business accompanies the vehicle transporting the light trailer.

LD 250 **An Act to Maintain Moosehead Trail Signs** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JONES DAVIS P	ONTP	

LD 250 proposed to require that the Department of Transportation conduct routine maintenance on signs designating the Moosehead Trail before Memorial Day of each year. The Moosehead Trail consists of the highway beginning in Belfast at the junction of U.S. Route 1 and Route 3, Route 7 to Newport and Dexter, Route 23 to Sangerville to the junction of Route 15 in Guilford, Route 15 to Greenville and Jackman and ending at the junction of Route 15 and U.S. Route 201.

LD 278 **Resolve, to Change the Name of the Maine Turnpike to the Ronald Reagan Highway** **ONTP**

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

LD 278 proposed to rename the Maine Turnpike the Ronald Reagan Highway.

LD 302 **An Act to Designate the Ryefield Bridge an Historic Bridge** **PUBLIC 455**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT HEIDRICH	OTP-AM	S-9

LD 302 proposed to add the Ryefield Bridge in Harrison and Otisfield to the list of historic bridges for which the State assumes the cost and responsibility for management, maintenance and rehabilitation.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-9) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 455 adds the Ryefield Bridge in Harrison and Otisfield to the list of historic bridges for which the State assumes the cost and responsibility for management, maintenance and rehabilitation.

LD 306 **An Act to Authorize a Registered Maine Guide Registration Plate** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUNLAP KILKELLY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 306 proposed to authorize the Secretary of State to issue through the Maine Environmental Trust Fund program a registration plate design depicting the registered Maine guide insignia.

LD 312 **An Act to Modernize the Laws Regarding Bicycle Safety** **PUBLIC 148**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KOFFMAN SAWYER		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-177
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LD 312 proposed to change the general definition of "bicycle" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, to be consistent with the definition in the Bicycle Safety Education Act. The bill proposed to clarify that bicycle operators are permitted to travel on paved shoulders and that bicycle operators are required to replace their hands on the handlebars after signaling a turn but before turning. Finally, the bill proposed to require the Chief of the State Police to develop new rules for the use of lights and reflectors.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-177) proposed to change the general definition of "bicycle" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A to be consistent with the definition of the Bicycle Safety Education Act. The amendment proposed to clarify that bicycle operators are permitted to travel on paved shoulders and that bicycle operators may replace their hands on the handlebars after signaling a turn. The amendment would update the statutes regarding night equipment to reflect current equipment and practices. Finally, the amendment proposed to clarify that vehicles must yield to bicyclists when making right turns.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 148 changes the general definition of "bicycle" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A to be consistent with the definition of the Bicycle Safety Education Act. It clarifies that bicycle operators are permitted to travel on paved shoulders and that bicycle operators may replace their hands on the handlebars after signaling a turn. The law updates the statutes regarding night equipment to reflect current equipment and practices. It also clarifies that vehicles must yield to bicyclists when making right turns.