

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:

Todd Jorgensen, Legislative Analyst

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Maine State Legislature
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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

LD 317

**An Act to Clarify the Maine Turnpike Authority's Power
Regarding Confidentiality of Information**

PUBLIC 158

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE C FISHER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-10
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LD 317 proposed to clarify that the Maine Turnpike Authority has the same power the Department of Transportation has to keep certain information relating to negotiations for the purchase of property confidential for a limited time.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-10) proposed to clarify that the bill refers to the right-of-way divisions of the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority. It also clarifies that records relating to property negotiations must be open for public inspection after 9 months following the project completion date according to the record of the department or authority.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 158 clarifies that the Maine Turnpike Authority has the same power the Department of Transportation has to keep certain information relating to negotiations for the purchase of property confidential for a limited time.

LD 332

An Act to Require Seat Belts on School Buses

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON MURPHY E	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 332 proposed to require that new school buses purchased after January 1, 2002 must be equipped with safety seat belts for use by all passengers.

LD 333

**An Act to Allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to Construct
Communications Facilities**

PUBLIC 41

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE C FISHER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-11
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LD 333 proposed to authorize the Maine Turnpike Authority to construct and install, on the property constituting the turnpike, communications facilities and equipment for the authority's use, the use of others or both. The authority would be authorized to lease its property for the construction and installation of communications facilities and equipment.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Committee Amendment "A" (S-11) proposed to clarify that any communications tower constructed, acquired, installed, maintained or reconstructed by the Maine Turnpike Authority within turnpike property will be solely for the use of the authority.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 41 authorizes the Maine Turnpike Authority to construct and install, on the property constituting the turnpike, communications facilities and equipment for the authority's use, the use of others or both. The authority is authorized to lease its property for the construction and installation of communications facilities and equipment. Any communications tower constructed, acquired, installed, maintained or reconstructed by the Maine Turnpike Authority within turnpike property will be solely for the use of the authority.

LD 340 **An Act to Create a Sportsman's License Plate** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KILKELLY DUNLAP		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 340 proposed to authorize the issuance of a special sportsman's registration plate that would fund sportsmen's special programs within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 362 **An Act to Exempt Current Property Owners from Fees for Existing Rights-of-Way Across Train Lines** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARDSON EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 362 proposed to prohibit railroad corporations from collecting maintenance and insurance fees from property owners using rights-of-way on private crossings prior to the effective date of this bill.

LD 377 **An Act to Consolidate Forms Used in the Course of Automobile Sales** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ASH		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 377 proposed to require the Secretary of State to provide a single form containing a temporary registration plate registration, an application for the certificate of title and a receipt for sales tax collected from the sale of a motor vehicle.