

# 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*

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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](http://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 634**

**An Act to Ensure Uniform Enforcement of Maine's Weight Laws**

**INDEF PP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>   | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| COLLINS<br>SAVAGE C |                         |                           |

LD 634 proposed to require the Commissioner of Transportation to regularly review Department of Transportation internal documents for any violation of the highway weight laws and to certify quarterly to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation that all department vehicles comply with the law. This bill was not referred to committee and was indefinitely postponed on the floor.

**LD 638**

**An Act Establishing Children's Identification Cards**

**ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| RICHARDSON        | ONTP                    |                           |

LD 638 proposed to establish a children's identification card program under the auspices of the Secretary of State. Under this bill, the parent or legal guardian of a child could obtain a child identification card with a digital image for a \$5 fee.

**LD 643**

**An Act to Allow Municipalities to Lower Certain Speed Limits**

**PUBLIC 313**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MARLEY<br>O'GARA  | OTP-AM                  | H-357<br>H-400 FISHER     |

LD 643 proposed to allow a municipality, after a public hearing and vote of the municipal officers, to decrease the speed limit in a 25-miles-per-hour zone to 15 miles per hour.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-357)** proposed to authorize qualifying municipalities to increase or decrease speed limits on qualifying roads. The amendment proposed to clarify at what point and under what circumstances a municipality is responsible for setting speed limits.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-400)** proposed to strike the language that speed limits be validated pursuant to the speed limits published by the Federal Highway Administration.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 313 authorizes qualifying municipalities to increase or decrease speed limits on qualifying roads. The law clarifies at what point and under what circumstances a municipality is responsible for setting speed limits.