

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

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

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 900

An Act to Create a Specialty License Plate for Native Mainers

ONTP

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

LD 900 proposed to authorize the issuance of a special native Mainer motor vehicle registration plate that would fund special programs within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 927

An Act to Provide Transportation Vouchers to Persons with Disabilities to Improve their Independence and Opportunity to Work

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SCHNEIDER	OTP-AM	H-581

LD 927 proposed to establish a program providing for the issuance of annual transportation vouchers to persons with disabilities. The purpose of the transportation voucher program, as proposed, was to improve the independence and opportunity to work for persons with disabilities. The vouchers could have been used for fares for public transportation or to pay mileage expenses for private transportation. The bill proposed to appropriate \$500,000 for the biennium from the General Fund to fund the program. The bill directed the Commissioner of Transportation to adopt rules governing the implementation of the transportation voucher program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-581) proposed to authorize the Department of Labor to establish and administer the transportation vouchers program.

LD 933

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study Abolishing the Maine Turnpike Authority

ONTP

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

LD 933 proposed to create the Commission to Study Abolishing the Maine Turnpike Authority. Membership of the commission would have included the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and the Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's designee. Commission duties would have included undertaking a comprehensive study to abolish the Maine Turnpike Authority. The study would have included the following: a proposal to develop toll equity; an analysis of the availability of federal highway funds if the Maine Turnpike Authority were to be abolished; an analysis of estimates in cost savings or losses if the Maine Turnpike Authority were to be abolished; an analysis of the implications of abolishing the Maine Turnpike Authority; and a list of options that would provide a course of action to reallocate the functions, duties and obligations of the Maine Turnpike Authority to another agency.