

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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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

Part J allows another person who has been issued a school bus instruction permit to be a passenger on a bus when it is being operated by a school bus permittee.

Part K requires the Secretary of State to convene a task force to study the municipal excise tax and other motor vehicle registration fees.

Part L alters the requirements for reflective materials used by bicycles, motorized bicycles or tricycles during nighttime use.

Public Law 2001, chapter 440 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2001.

LD 1342

An Act to Enhance, Upgrade and Encourage Passenger Rail Service in Maine through the Creation of a Rail Trust Fund

ONTP

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

LD 1342 proposed to create the Passenger Rail Trust Fund to be used for maintenance and improvements to passenger rail infrastructure, the purchase or lease of real property to support passenger rail service, operating assistance to passenger rail service providers offering service in Maine, a tax-credit incentive for on-time service performance by passenger rail service providers offering service in Maine and passenger rail planning provided by the Department of Transportation.

Proposed sources of funds included all excise tax revenues collected from railroad companies, use tax revenues on special fuel tax refunds collected from railroad companies and a surtax collected from railroad companies that use infrastructure supported by the fund based on passenger use per track-mile.

This bill was jointly referred to the joint Standing Committee on Taxation and the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

LD 1353

An Act to Increase the Maine Turnpike Authority Bond Limit

PUBLIC 311

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE C MCNEIL	OTP	

LD 1353 proposed to increase the Maine Turnpike Authority bond limit to provide for the financing of ongoing capital improvements to the turnpike.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 311 increases the Maine Turnpike Authority bond limit to provide for the financing of ongoing capital improvements to the turnpike.