

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 1564

An Act to Amend the Laws Affecting Changeable Message Signs

PUBLIC 268

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FISHER SAVAGE C	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-408
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LD 1564 proposed changes to the use of electronic, digital or mechanical changeable signs. The bill proposed to increase the frequency that messages change from every 4 hours to every 20 minutes and would prohibit flashing, rolling, scrolling or blending. It proposed that changes in sign text must be limited to alphabetic or numeric text and prohibited pictures. The bill also proposed color and sign dimension requirements.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-408) proposed to allow changeable message signs to display more colors than black, white and gray.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 268 imposes changes to the use of electronic, digital or mechanical changeable signs. The law increases the frequency that messages change from every 4 hours to every 20 minutes and prohibits flashing, rolling, scrolling or blending. It requires that changes in sign text must be limited to alphabetic or numeric text and prohibits pictures.

LD 1614

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Secretary of State and the Maine State Police Regarding Low-speed Vehicles

PUBLIC 197

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-220
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LD 1614 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Secretary of State and the Maine State Police regarding low-speed vehicles pursuant to Public Law 1999, chapter 660, section 4 and proposed to make certain changes to the motor vehicle laws regarding golf carts and motorized scooters.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-220) proposed to include a definition of scooter in the general definition section of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 197 implements the recommendations of the Secretary of State and the Maine State Police regarding low-speed vehicles pursuant to Public Law 1999, chapter 660, section 4 and makes certain changes to the motor vehicle laws regarding golf carts and motorized scooters.