

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

May 2002

Members:

*Sen. Christine R. Savage, Chair
Sen. William B. O'Gara
Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon*

*Rep. Charles D. Fisher, Chair
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
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

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
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Resolve 2001, chapter 78 directs the Department of Transportation to submit proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation in the next regular legislative session after the department has determined the location of a 3rd bridge in Washington County connecting Maine with New Brunswick, Canada. This legislation must include provisions to allow Canadian weight standards on Route 1 from the bridge to the junction of Route 1 and Route 9 in Baileyville.

LD 1832

An Act to Strengthen the Habitual Offender Law

PUBLIC 514

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA GERZOFISKY	OTP-AM	H-816 SAVAGE W S-409

LD 1832 proposed to increase the period of driver license revocation for habitual motor vehicle offenders from one year to 3 years and to provide that certain habitual offenders may petition for a work-restricted license following 2 years of license revocation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-409) proposed to provide that certain habitual offenders may petition for a work-restricted license following 18 months of license revocation, instead of 2 years as proposed in the bill.

House Amendment "B" (H-816) proposed to exclude a conviction of operating after suspension when the suspension is based on nonpayment of child support in the number of convictions included in the definition of "habitual offender."

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 514 increases the period of driver license revocation for habitual motor vehicle offenders from one year to 3 years and provides that certain habitual offenders may petition for a work-restricted license following 18 months of license revocation. The law excludes a conviction of operating after suspension when the suspension is based on nonpayment of child support in the number of convictions included in the definition of "habitual offender."

LD 1836

An Act to Clarify Licensure for the Operation of Antique Trucks

PUBLIC 486

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISHER	OTP-AM	H-768

LD 1836 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposed to allow a person without a driver's license to operate an antique truck as long as the truck is not being operated in commerce but for recreational, pleasure or show purposes.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-768) proposed to replace the original bill and allow a person with a Class C driver's license to operate an antique truck as long as the truck is not being operated in commerce but for recreational, pleasure or show purposes.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 486 allows a person with a Class C driver's license to operate an antique truck as long as the truck is not being operated in commerce but for recreational, pleasure or show purposes.

LD 1841 **An Act to Allow Sharing of Information to Facilitate Interstate Cooperation Between Toll Agencies** **PUBLIC 473**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISHER DAGGETT	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 1841 proposed to allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to share patron information with other toll agencies in order to facilitate cooperation and interoperability between interstate toll agencies in areas such as electronic toll collection.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 473 allows the Maine Turnpike Authority to share patron information with other toll agencies in order to facilitate cooperation between interstate toll agencies and technical compatibility in areas such as electronic toll collection.

LD 1844 **An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws** **PUBLIC 671**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISHER SAVAGE C	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-941 S-524 SAVAGE C

LD 1844 proposed to do the following.

1. It would allow the Secretary of State to suspend a driver's license or vehicle registration for delinquent accounts payable to the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
2. It would allow the Secretary of State to determine the appropriate compensation for 3rd-party agents who issue driver's license renewals.
3. It would place special mobile equipment and tractors into the staggered registration system. At the time of this proposal, for the initial registration, registrants often paid the full annual fee for a partial year.
4. It would provide the Secretary of State with the flexibility of issuing a special credential in lieu of a special plate. The credential would be used primarily to permit motor vehicles on short-term lease to be used for hire without displaying an "H" plate so long as the vehicle is covered by insurance and proper fees have been paid.
5. It would adjust the farm registration weight brackets to conform to the commercial registration weight brackets. Where the brackets have been adjusted, fees are proportional. This provision was intended to be revenue neutral.