# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# State Of Maine 120th Legislature

## Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

May 2002

### <u>Members</u>:

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	
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne is	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 PASS	AGE Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	
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	
OTP ND/NT	
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	
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.

### **Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

LD 1881 proposed to increase the dollar amount that the Department of Transportation can pay landowners for property without a formal appraisal from \$5,000 to \$15,000. A market analysis would be performed in place of the formal appraisal. In cases in which the landowner does not consent to the amount, a formal appraisal would be performed.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 485 increases the dollar amount that the Department of Transportation can pay landowners for property without a formal appraisal from \$5,000 to \$15,000. A market analysis will be performed in place of the formal appraisal. In cases in which the landowner does not consent to the amount, a formal appraisal will be performed.

LD 1896

An Act to Simplify the Process by Which a Financial Institution Transfers Motor Vehicle Title to a Lessee **ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)
YOUNGBLOOD

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1896 proposed to expand the ability of a financial institution to sell a motor vehicle that it leased to the lessee of the vehicle. The bill also proposed to permit financial institutions to use agents rather than employees to accomplish such sales.

LD 1907

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow for Loans to be Repaid With Federal Transportation Funds CON RES 1

Sponsor(s)
SAVAGE C
FISHER

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-842 FISHER
S-419

LD 1907 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to allow the State to issue temporary debt to be repaid with federal transportation funds to facilitate the development of highways, bridges and other transportation projects.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-419)** proposed to limit the amount of short-term debt that can be issued under the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Maine to 50% of federal transportation funds allocated in the prior fiscal year.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-842)** proposed to clarify that the transportation funds are funds that were appropriated by the Federal Government in the prior federal fiscal year.

### Enacted law summary

Constitutional Resolution 2001, chapter 1 proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to allow the State to issue temporary debt to be repaid with federal transportation funds to facilitate the development of highways, bridges and other transportation projects. It limits the amount of short-term debt that can be issued under the proposed