

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*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*

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Maine State Legislature
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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

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Public Law 2001, chapter 565 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 26, 2002.

LD 2150 **An Act to Facilitate Water Well Drilling if Necessitated by
Emergency Drought Conditions** **PUBLIC 540
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J COLWELL	OTP-AM	S-469

LD 2150 proposed to allow a person operating a vehicle that is transporting well-drilling equipment to travel over a county or municipal way without a specific county or municipal permit during calendar year 2002.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-469) proposed to allow a person operating a vehicle that is transporting well-drilling equipment to travel over a county or municipal way without a specific county or municipal permit during a period of drought emergency declared by the Governor, provided certain conditions were met.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 540 allows a person operating a vehicle that is transporting well-drilling equipment to travel over a county or municipal way without a specific county or municipal permit during a period of drought emergency declared by the Governor, provided certain conditions are met.

Public Law 2001, chapter 540 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 21, 2002.

LD 2178 **An Act to Implement the Minority Report of the Joint Standing
Committee on Transportation Regarding the Final Report of the
Task Force to Study the Municipal Excise Tax and Other Motor
Vehicle Registration Fees** **ONTP**

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

LD 2178 proposed to allow municipalities the option to offer up to a 10% discount in the amount of excise tax paid on motor vehicles.

LD 2214 **Resolve, to Establish and Fund the Task Force on Rail
Transportation** **RESOLVE 120
EMERGENCY**

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

LD 2214 proposed to establish and fund the Task Force on Rail Transportation. The task force would be comprised of legislators and non-legislators with rail interests. The duties of the task force would be to evaluate

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current transportation policies and plans, develop an integrated statewide rail transportation policy and plan, and develop steps to implement this policy and plan. The task force would identify State budgetary strategies to assist railroads confronted with significant financial problems. The task force would also create a plan for educating the Legislature and the public on these policies and plans. The State's Railroad Preservation and Assistance Fund would fund the task force.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 120 establishes and funds the Task Force on Rail Transportation. The task force is comprised of legislators and non-legislators with rail interests. The duties of the task force are to evaluate current transportation policies and plans, develop an integrated statewide rail transportation policy and plan, and develop steps to implement this policy and plan. The task force will identify State budgetary strategies to assist railroads confronted with significant financial problems. The task force will also create a plan for educating the Legislature and the public on these policies and plans. The State's Railroad Preservation and Assistance Fund will fund the task force.

Resolve 2001, chapter 120 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2002.

HP 1727

JOINT ORDER, Relative to the Task Force on Rail Transportation

PASSED

Sponsor(s)
JONES

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted
H-1884 HA

HP1727 proposed to establish the Task Force on Rail Transportation. The task force would be comprised of legislators and non-legislators with rail interests. The duties of the task force would be to evaluate current transportation policies and plans, develop an integrated statewide rail transportation policy and plan, and develop steps to implement this policy and plan. The task force would identify State budgetary strategies to assist railroads confronted with significant financial problems. The task force would also create a plan for educating the Legislature and the public on these policies and plans.

The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation amended the Joint Order to authorize the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to report out a bill regarding a task force on rail transportation. This was done so that an executive agency could fund the task force. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs reported out LD 2214, which was enacted as Resolve 2001, chapter 120.