

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

August 2005

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Sen. Bill Diamond
Sen. Christine R. Savage*

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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 June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

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LD 446

An Act To Mandate Payment of Licensed Sign Language Interpreters for Driver Education Students

PUBLIC 411

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-168
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LD 446 proposed to require the Secretary of State to provide certified deaf interpreter services or computer-assisted real-time transcription for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons required to complete a driver education or motorcycle driver education course and examination in order to qualify for a driver's license or instruction permit.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-168) proposed to clarify that the Secretary of State must provide licensed interpreter services for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons required to complete a driver education or motorcycle driver education course and examination in order to qualify for a driver's license or instruction permit. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 411 requires the Secretary of State to provide licensed interpreter services or computer-assisted real-time transcription for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons required to complete a driver education or motorcycle driver education course and examination in order to qualify for a driver's license or instruction permit.

LD 492

An Act To Create a Special Higher Education License Plate

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RECTOR ROSEN R		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 492 proposes to authorize the issuance of a higher education special registration plate to honor institutions of higher learning in Maine and to fund the Maine State Grant Program.

This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to any special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

LD 495

An Act To Reduce School Truancy

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MAKAS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 495 proposed to provide that a person under 17 years of age may not apply for an instruction permit to operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle and may not apply for a license unless that person provides proof that the person has not been declared habitually truant.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-369), the committee minority report, proposed to clarify that a public school student under 17 years of age may not apply for an instruction permit to operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle

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and may not apply for a license unless that person provides proof that the person has not been declared habitually truant. The amendment also proposed to repeal these provisions June 30, 2008. This amendment was not adopted.

LD 498

An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Changeable Signs

PUBLIC 195

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GLYNN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-291

LD 498 proposed to authorize a municipality to adopt an ordinance to regulate changeable signs within that municipality that is more or less stringent than state standards except for changeable signs located on interstate corridors.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-291), the committee majority report, proposed to remove language from the bill that would allow a municipality to adopt an ordinance to regulate changeable signs that is more or less stringent than state standards. The amendment also proposed to authorize a municipality to adopt an ordinance to regulate the changing of messages displayed on a changeable sign, except that a municipality may not allow flashing.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 195 authorizes a municipality to adopt an ordinance to regulate the changing of messages displayed on a changeable sign, except that a municipality may not allow flashing.

LD 501

**An Act To Amend the Operator's License and Nondriver
Identification Card Requirements for Nonimmigrants**

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 501 proposes to require an applicant for a driver's license or a nondriver identification card who is a nonimmigrant to provide the Secretary of State written proof, evidence or documentation that the applicant's presence in the United States is authorized under federal law. It also proposes to provide that a driver's license or nondriver identification card issued to a nonimmigrant is not valid past the expiration date of the nonimmigrant's permission to remain in the United States.

This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to any special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.