

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

Staff:

Nicole A. Dube, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

Lock Kiermaier, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Fiscal and Program Review
5 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1635*

Members:

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Sen. Bill Diamond
Sen. Christine R. Savage*

*Rep. Boyd P. Marley, Chair
Rep. Charles D. Fisher
Rep. Rosaire "Ross" Paradis, Jr.
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Rep. Edward J. Mazurek
Rep. Terrence P. McKenney
Rep. Ronald F. Collins
Rep. William P. Browne
Rep. Douglas A. Thomas*



Maine State Legislature

OFFICE OF POLICY & LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Room 215 Cross State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 729 **An Act To Clarify the City of Portland's Interest in the Maine State Pier** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUDLEY STRIMLING		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 729 proposed to confirm the intent of the Legislature as shown in the Legislative Record and the deed from the Department of Transportation to the City of Portland dated February 1, 1982, whereby the State conveyed to the city all of the State's legal interest and rights in the Maine State Pier and the submerged lands associated with the pier.

LD 733 **An Act To Reward Veterans for Their Service** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LINDELL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 733 proposed to allow an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces to receive one set of license plates for a noncommercial vehicle with a lifetime exemption from registration fees and excise taxes.

LD 735 **An Act To Clarify Registration for Noncommercial Trucks and Registration Requirements for Nonresidents** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVIELLO		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 735 proposed to clarify that seasonal nonresident visitors to Maine who are domiciled in this State for less than 179 days are not required to register their vehicles in this State. The bill also proposed to remove the requirement that noncommercial trucks in excess of 6,000 pounds be registered as commercial vehicles.

LD 738 **An Act To Make Additional Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of State Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2005** **PUBLIC 37
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARLEY DAMON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-46
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LD 738 proposed to do the following:

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Part A authorized certain transfers of excess equity of the State Retiree Health Insurance Fund to the General Fund Compensation and Benefit Plan account and Highway Fund Compensation and Benefit Plan account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and to the Highway Fund unallocated surplus and other funds or entities of origin.

Part B made allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-46) proposed to make certain reclassification adjustments.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 37 does the following.

Part A authorizes certain transfers of excess equity of the State Retiree Health Insurance Fund to the General Fund Compensation and Benefit Plan account and Highway Fund Compensation and Benefit Plan account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and to the Highway Fund unallocated surplus and other funds or entities of origin.

Part B makes allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

Public Law 2005, chapter 37 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 1, 2005.

LD 739

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Funds and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2007

**PUBLIC 36
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
MARLEY
DAMON

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-72

LD 739 proposed to do the following:

Part A made allocations of funds.

Part B adjusted allocations of funds representing reduction proposals or adjustments to current services.

Part C required the calculation and transfer of statewide savings in the Highway Fund from extending the amortization schedule of the unfunded liability of the Maine State Retirement System for fiscal years 2005-06 and 2006-07 that are identified in Part B, section 1.

Part D required the calculation and transfer of statewide savings and identification of position eliminations in the Highway Fund from the review of the current organizational structure, systems and operations of information technology units.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-72) replaced the bill and proposed to do the following: