

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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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.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 1069 **An Act To Exempt the Transportation of Products Essential for Agricultural Operations from Certain Restrictions Posted on Roads** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIOTTI NUTTING J	ONTP	

LD 1069 proposed to exempt vehicles delivering supplies or products necessary for an agricultural operation from restrictions placed on roads concerning weight, speed, operation and equipment during certain periods of the year.

LD 1077 **An Act To Allow Accent Lighting on Motor Vehicles** **PUBLIC 183**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAMPSON DAMON	OTP-AM	H-290

LD 1077 proposed to allow optional accent lighting on motor vehicles that conforms to federal regulations and does not create a safety hazard.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-290) replaced the bill and proposed to allow for auxiliary lights on the exterior of motor vehicles that conform to statutory requirements regarding size, color, visibility and location. The amendment also proposed to permit blue interior lighting on motor vehicles.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 183 allows for auxiliary lights on the exterior of motor vehicles that conform to statutory requirements regarding size, color, visibility and location. The law also permits blue interior lighting on motor vehicles.

LD 1082 **An Act To Prohibit Passing in Designated No-passing Zones** **PUBLIC 141**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARR DAVIS P	OTP-AM	H-209

LD 1082 proposed to prohibit passing a vehicle when the road is painted with an unbroken center line or an unbroken line in the operator's lane.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-209) proposed to clarify that the placing of highway markings on a roadway is prima facie evidence that the markings have been placed by the official act or direction of lawful authority.

Enacted law summary

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Public Law 2005, chapter 141 prohibits passing a vehicle when the road is painted with an unbroken center line or an unbroken line in the operator's lane. The law also clarifies that the placing of highway markings on a roadway is prima facie evidence that the markings have been placed by the official act or direction of lawful authority.

LD 1119 **Resolve, To Examine Driver's License Fees** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BARSTOW		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1119 proposed to direct the Secretary of State to examine driver's license fees in this State and the time periods in which a license is valid and compare it to other states. If the secretary's examination finds that the levels and time periods are not comparable to the levels and time periods in other states, the bill proposed to authorize the secretary to make adjustments.

LD 1122 **Resolve, To Establish the Wabanaki Trail** **RESOLVE 42**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LORING MITCHELL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-262
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LD 1122 proposed to establish a task force consisting of the Department of Economic and Community Development and its Office of Tourism, the Department of Transportation and the University of Maine System in conjunction with the Penobscot Nation to jointly develop the Wabanaki Trail, including designating roads, routes and points of interest, creating signage and creating maps that include old canoe trails on waterways.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-262) proposed to clarify that the task force shall create web-based maps. The amendment also proposed to strike language from the bill authorizing the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 42 establishes a task force consisting of the Department of Economic and Community Development and its Office of Tourism, the Department of Transportation and the University of Maine System in conjunction with the Penobscot Nation to jointly develop the Wabanaki Trail, including designating roads, routes and points of interest, creating signage and creating web-based maps that include old canoe trails on waterways.

LD 1124 **An Act To Allow the Secretary of State To Review License Suspensions** **ONTP**

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