

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*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:

*Sen. Dennis S. Damon, Chair
Sen. Bill Diamond
Sen. Christine R. Savage*

*Rep. Boyd P. Marley, Chair
Rep. Charles D. Fisher
Rep. Rosaire "Ross" Paradis, Jr.
Rep. Sonya G. Sampson
Rep. George W. Hogan, Sr.
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

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

LD 1544 **An Act To Exempt Vehicles Hauling Equipment Used for Timber Harvesting from Certain Restrictions Posted on Roads** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON BRYANT B	ONTP	

LD 1544 proposed to exempt vehicles used in Aroostook County, Piscataquis County, Somerset County, Washington County, Oxford County and Franklin County for the trucking of equipment used in timber harvesting operations from restrictions placed on roads concerning weight, speed, operation and equipment on weekends during the months of June through August.

LD 1571 **An Act To Allow Certain Modifications of Motor Vehicles** **PUBLIC 276**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS DOW	OTP-AM	H-457

LD 1571 proposed to provide that a vehicle with or without antilock brakes may be modified, including the installation of larger tires, with proof of an electronic control module or electronic control unit reprogramming or recalibration, when applicable. This bill also proposed to permit the installation of vehicle-specific engineered systems and components.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-457) replaced the bill and proposed to provide that a motor vehicle may be modified, including the suspension and tires.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 276 provides that a motor vehicle may be modified, including the suspension and tires. The law also clarifies that a motor vehicle may not be operated on a public way or receive a certificate of inspection with a frame end height lower than the vehicle was originally manufactured if originally manufactured to be less than 10 inches.

LD 1576 **An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws Relating to the Assignment of Security Interests** **PUBLIC 234
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE	OTP-AM	S-185

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 1576 proposed to provide an exemption to the requirements that a lienholder who assigns a security interest in a motor vehicle must notify the Secretary of State and have a certificate of title issued with the assignee named as lienholder for a lienholder who assigns a security interest if the lienholder retains the obligation to perform servicing functions in connection with the security interest.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-185) proposed to clarify that the definition of "servicing functions" includes the requirement that the lienholder named on the title retain possession of the title certificate.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 234 provides an exemption to the requirements that a lienholder who assigns a security interest in a motor vehicle must notify the Secretary of State and have a certificate of title issued with the assignee named as lienholder for a lienholder who assigns a security interest if the lienholder retains the obligation to perform servicing functions in connection with the security interest.

Public Law 2005, chapter 234 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 25, 2005.

LD 1583 **Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Strengthen Guardrails on Old County Road in Rockland and Thomaston** **RESOLVE 48**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MAZUREK SAVAGE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	--------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1583 proposed to direct the Department of Transportation to inspect the guardrails on Old County Road in Rockland and Thomaston and to take action necessary to ensure they meet current safety standards.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 48 directs the Department of Transportation to inspect the guardrails on Old County Road in Rockland and Thomaston and to take action necessary to ensure they meet current safety standards.

LD 1623 **An Act To Require the Inspection of All Commercial Trailers at Time of Sale** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ROTUNDO MARLEY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1623 proposed to require that at the time of purchase a trailer or semitrailer must have a valid inspection sticker, or the buyer must be given notice by the seller that the trailer or semitrailer needs to be inspected.