

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Transportation*

July 2006

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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.
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Rep. Ronald F. Collins
Rep. William P. Browne
Rep. Douglas A. Thomas*

Maine State Legislature



Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular Session

Summary of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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/billsumm.htm).

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
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 (Pocket Veto).....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 1738

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Ferry Service Travel for
Individuals with Catastrophic Illness**

**PUBLIC 472
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE MAZUREK	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1738 proposed to allow residents of the island communities served by the Maine State Ferry Service free transportation services when traveling to and from regularly scheduled, medically necessary appointments with medical care providers on the mainland if these appointments pertain to a catastrophic illness.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 472 allows residents of the island communities served by the Maine State Ferry Service free transportation services when traveling to and from regularly scheduled, medically necessary appointments with medical care providers on the mainland if these appointments pertain to a catastrophic illness.

Public Law 2005, chapter 472 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 21, 2006.

LD 1750

An Act To Amend Certain Transportation Laws

PUBLIC 482

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAMON MARLEY	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-458
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LD 1750 proposed to make the following changes to the laws governing transportation.

1. It proposed to allow for an exception to outdoor luminaire requirements if the Commissioner of Transportation determines that the lighting is related to a Department of Transportation project of state and regional significance and is supported by municipalities directly affected by the installation.
2. It proposed to allow for attractions to be included on logo signs on the interstate highway system and allows for logo signs on certain connector highways where it is necessary to establish continuity for logo signs erected on the Maine Turnpike.
3. It proposed to require local administration of municipal ordinances adopted regarding changeable signs.
4. It proposed to add language to and removes requirements from the provisions of the auxiliary light statute to reflect current technology.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-458) proposed to clarify that exceptions to outdoor luminaire requirements are related to Department of Transportation bridge projects of state and regional significance. This amendment also proposed to allow appurtenances to motor homes, truck campers and camp trailers extending up to 6 inches from either side of the body of the unit.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 482 makes the following changes to the law governing transportation.

1. It allows for an exception to outdoor luminaire requirements if the Commissioner of Transportation determines that the lighting is related to a Department of Transportation bridge project of state and regional significance and is supported by municipalities directly affected by the installation.
2. It allows for attractions to be included on logo signs on the interstate highway system and allows for logo signs on certain connector highways where it is necessary to establish continuity for logo signs erected on the Maine Turnpike.
3. It requires local administration of municipal ordinances adopted regarding changeable signs.
4. It adds language to and removes requirements from the provisions of the auxiliary light statute to reflect current technology.
5. It allows appurtenances to motor homes, truck campers and camp trailers extending up to 6 inches from either side of the body of the unit.

LD 1765

An Act To Require Insurance Companies To Notify the Secretary of State when a Motor Vehicle Has Been Insured

ONTP

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

LD 1765, beginning January 1, 2007, proposed to require an insurance company that is beginning coverage on a motor vehicle in this State to provide the Secretary of State with notice of that coverage. The bill also proposed to require the Secretary of State to reconcile a notice of cancellation, termination or lapse with a notice of new coverage.

Current law requires an insurance company providing coverage for a vehicle in this State to notify the Secretary of State when that insurance coverage is cancelled or terminated or lapses. Beginning January 1, 2007, an insurance company or an insured is allowed to provide the Secretary of State with evidence of insurance via electronic means, the Internet, facsimile or U.S. mail or in person.