

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

July 2007

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# STATE OF MAINE

123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

## Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Interstate Bridge Authority.

- It provides that the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority are not subject to any fee or tax imposed pursuant to a municipal storm water ordinance that was in effect on January 1, 2007. This provision does not apply to ordinances passed after January 1, 2007.

Public Law 2007, chapter 306 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2007.

**LD 873**      **An Act To Require Economic Analysis and Public Comment for Road Construction Projects**      **ONTP**

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

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to complete an economic analysis of a proposed corridor for a state or state aid highway and to submit this economic analysis for public comment prior to any final determination of the location of the corridor.

**LD 894**      **An Act To Establish a 6-month Registration Period for Farm Truck License Plates**      **ONTP**

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

This bill establishes an optional 6-month registration period for farm trucks.

**LD 897**      **An Act Relating to Trains and Train Service in the State**      **ONTP**

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

This bill, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes emergency legislation to implement the recommendations of a statewide working group that was established at the request of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation during the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature to explore the issue of noise and air pollution attributed to train engines idling for long periods of time in various communities. Specifically, the bill proposes to encourage rail operators to install and use idling reduction technologies whenever possible and to assist rail operators in investigating all funding sources available to reduce the cost of their installation. Under the bill, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Protection will work together to identify and apply through the Northeast Diesel Collaborative and other sources for funding to assist in the installation of idling reduction technologies through matching grants or loans to the railroads.