

# 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*

railing enclosing the perimeter of the platform, 3 feet or more in height and enclosed in a manner that would reasonably prevent passage of a child. The amendment defines "outrigger float" as a float constructed in a manner that results in any wheels of the truck or trailer on which the platform is mounted extending beyond the edge of the platform. Violation of this provision is a traffic infraction.

**LD 1329     An Act To Allow Municipalities To Set Speed Limits on Certain Roads**

**ACCEPTED ONTP  
REPORT**

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

This bill makes it easier for a municipality to set a speed limit on a local road and allows a small municipality to set such a limit.

**LD 1330     An Act To Promote School Zone Safety**

**ACCEPTED ONTP  
REPORT**

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

The bill adds hand signals and hand-held traffic control signs used by school crossing guards to the motor vehicle laws governing traffic control devices. The bill also doubles the fines of various traffic violations if the violations are committed in a school zone, with half of the fine going into the School Zone Safety Fund, established to promote school zone safety and fund school zone safety projects. This bill defines "school crossing guard" and gives crossing guards the authority to report violations that occur in a school zone to law enforcement officers. The registered owner of the vehicle may be found liable for a vehicle violation that takes place in a school zone.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-245)**

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**LD 1337     Resolve, To Assist in Appropriate Notification in an Emergency**

**ONTP**

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

This bill directs the Secretary of State to create a program in which a person applying for or receiving their driver's license can provide emergency contact information in case of an accident or emergency.

**LD 1343     An Act To Encourage Vanpooling and Carpooling**

**ONTP**

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

## *Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

This bill, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to enact measures that are designed to encourage vanpooling and carpooling in the State.

**LD 1363    An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Access to State and State Aid  
Highways To Permit Traffic Safety and Rest Area Exceptions**

**ONTP**

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

This bill establishes types of access from property abutting a highway that the Commissioner of Transportation may allow in addition to access for the development of state and state aid highways. Under this bill, the Commissioner of Transportation may allow access to highways for traffic safety and for rest areas, such as fueling, food service and rest stops for passenger and commercial motor vehicles located within or through an area or areas for which the Department of Transportation has purchased access rights. This bill also authorizes the commissioner to allow access within or through an area or areas for which the department has purchased access rights for operational benefits, such as preserving mobility of the state or state aid highway to or from which access is proposed, so long as traffic safety is not diminished.

**LD 1399    Resolve, To Ensure the Safety of Roads with High Volumes of Traffic**

**ONTP**

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

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to target spending in Region 1 to roads with the highest volume of traffic.

**LD 1410    Resolve, To Name the Gray Connector**

**RESOLVE 30**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AUSTIN	OTP-AM	H-155

This resolve names Route 26A in Gray the Maine Wildlife Parkway.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-155)**

This amendment provides that the name of Route 26A in Gray will be the Maine Wildlife Park Way instead of Maine Wildlife Parkway as proposed in the bill.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2007, chapter 30 names Route 26A in Gray the Maine Wildlife Park Way.