

# 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*

19. Adds provisions allowing a detective employed by the Attorney General or motor vehicle investigator to use emergency lights.

**LD 1818**

**An Act To Enhance Public Safety, Facilitate the Coordination of Traffic Control Signal Systems and Promote More Equitable Use of Public Highway Rights-of-way**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)

DAMON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill provides that the Department of Transportation (DOT) may install and maintain traffic signals, directional signs and markings on town ways (current law allows the DOT to do this on state, state aid and federal aid highways), when necessary for public convenience and safety. It provides that owners of utility facilities located within or along a public right-of-way must accommodate traffic control signals and appurtenances on their facilities without charge to the public. It provides that if a utility refuses to make this accommodation within 30 days of notice, it is subject to a fine of up to \$500 per day for each traffic signal. It provides that the DOT may incorporate in its rules guidelines for the accommodation of such traffic control signal systems on utility facilities. The bill also corrects some outdated statutory references.

LD 1818 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

**LD 1844**

**An Act Concerning Maine's Highway Safety Laws**

**PUBLIC 295**

Sponsor(s)

MARLEY

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

H-333 MARLEY

This bill increases the registration fee for participation in defensive driving courses. The bill also increases the minimum height requirement a person less than 18 years of age must meet to use a seat belt instead of a child restraint system; this change makes Maine law consistent with federal requirements.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-270)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**House Amendment "A" (H-333)**

This amendment incorporates a revised fiscal note to replace the fiscal note in Committee Amendment "A" (filing number H-270).

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 295 increases the registration fee for participation in defensive driving courses. The bill also increases the minimum height requirement a person less than 18 years of age must meet to use a seat belt instead of a child restraint system; this change makes Maine law consistent with federal requirements.