

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during  
the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

July 2009

**STAFF:**

KAREN NADEAU-DRILLEN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
&  
SUZANNE ROY, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1635

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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***

**LD 243      Resolve, To Direct the Department of Transportation To Establish a Memorial Park Honoring Veterans in Topsham**

**LEAVE TO WITHDRAW**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL	LTW	

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to establish and designate with appropriate signs and notices a memorial park off Route 196 in the Town of Topsham to honor the memory of those who have served in the military and lost their lives in Iraq or Afghanistan.

**LD 261      An Act To Increase Safety in Construction Zones**

**ONTP**

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

This bill provides that a person may not operate a motor vehicle while using a mobile telephone or handheld electronic device in an area in which the Commissioner of Transportation or the Executive Director of the Maine Turnpike Authority has restricted the speed limit for construction or maintenance activity. The bill also provides that the penalty for a violation of this provision is at least \$50 for the first offense and at least \$250 for the 2nd or subsequent offense.

**LD 262      Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Install a Flashing Light in Charleston**

**ONTP**

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

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to install a flashing red and yellow traffic signal at the intersection of Route 11A, School Road and Atkinson Road in Charleston.

**LD 263      An Act To Provide Placards to Drivers Who for Medical Reasons Are Not Required To Wear Seat Belts**

**PUBLIC 436**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLARK H JACKSON	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-11

## *Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

This bill allows a driver who for medical reasons cannot wear a seat belt to receive a placard indicating the driver is not required to wear a seat belt.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-11)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, provides that a certificate from a physician, which documents a person's medical condition and the opinion of the physician, is valid for the period designated by the physician and may not exceed one year.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 436 allows a driver who for medical reasons cannot wear a seat belt to receive a placard indicating the driver is not required to wear a seat belt. It also provides that a certificate from a physician, which documents a person's medical condition and the opinion of the physician, is valid for the period designated by the physician and may not exceed one year.

**LD 269      An Act To Appropriate Funds To Equip State Trooper Cars with Cages      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEAUDOIN NASS R	ONTP	

This bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$73,950 and a one-time Highway Fund allocation of \$71,050 to equip each state trooper vehicle with a security cage and an ongoing General Fund appropriation of \$15,300 and an ongoing Highway Fund allocation of \$14,700 to move the units from old vehicles to new vehicles.

**LD 296      Resolve, To Name the Gorham Bypass      RESOLVE 6**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNAPP	OTP	

This resolve names the new Gorham bypass the Bernard P. Rines Bypass.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2009, chapter 6 names the new Gorham bypass the Bernard P. Rines Bypass.

**LD 297      An Act To Ensure That Medical Equipment Found in a Repossessed Vehicle Is Returned to the Owner      PUBLIC 45**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAY SHERMAN	OTP-AM	H-26