

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

LD 426 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the TransCap Trust Fund

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill provides that 9.5% of the money that otherwise would be deposited in the TransCap Trust Fund be transferred to the Urban-Rural Initiative Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Transportation and requires approval by the voters at referendum for each new authorization of TransCap revenue bonding beginning October 1, 2011. It requires the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters to review the goals of the TransCap Trust Fund every 2 years and authorizes the joint standing committee to report out legislation related to its review to the first regular session of the Legislature.

**LD 432 An Act To Authorize a GARVEE Bond for the Interstate 95 Bridge at
the Maine-New Hampshire State Line**

ONTP

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

This bill authorizes the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to issue \$15,000,000 in federally authorized grant anticipation revenue vehicle debt financing instruments, GARVEE bonds, to be repaid with federal transportation funds, the proceeds of which will be used by the Department of Transportation for bridge repairs to the Interstate 95 bridge at the Maine and New Hampshire border known as the Piscataqua River Bridge, programmed in the 2012-2013 biennium.

LD 437 An Act Relating to Inspection Requirements for New Motor Vehicles

PUBLIC 191

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMAS	OTP-AM	S-121

This bill changes the annual inspection requirement for motor vehicles, except for commercial vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, to a biennial inspection requirement unless the motor vehicle is over 6 years old. This bill also changes the annual enhanced inspection requirement for vehicles registered in Cumberland County in a similar manner. It exempts motor vehicles with an attached dealer plate from inspection.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-121)

This amendment replaces the bill and provides that a new motor vehicle owned by a new vehicle dealer with a dealer plate is exempt from motor vehicle inspection requirements only if the vehicle is operated for purposes directly connected with the business of buying, selling, testing, adjusting, servicing, demonstrating or exchanging the vehicle or for use by customers for not more than 7 days to demonstrate the vehicle.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

The amendment defines "new motor vehicle" as a motor vehicle of the current model year or model year immediately preceding the current model year that has not been previously registered or titled.

This amendment also increases the cost of inspection stickers for new vehicle dealers by \$1, from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per sticker.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 191 provides that a new motor vehicle owned by a new vehicle dealer with a dealer plate is exempt from motor vehicle inspection requirements only if the vehicle is operated for purposes directly connected with the business of buying, selling, testing, adjusting, servicing, demonstrating or exchanging the vehicle or for use by customers for not more than 7 days to demonstrate the vehicle.

The law defines "new motor vehicle" as a motor vehicle of the current model year or model year immediately preceding the current model year that has not been previously registered or titled.

It also increases the cost of inspection stickers for new vehicle dealers by \$1, from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per sticker.

LD 454	An Act To Permit Variation in Motor Vehicle Registration Expiration Dates	ONTP
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOULTON	ONTP	

This bill permits motor vehicle owners to choose the renewal date of their motor vehicle registrations at the time of registration, in which case the excise tax is prorated for the first year of registration.

LD 456	An Act Relating to Temporary Disability Parking Permits	PUBLIC 117
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONGSTAFF COLLINS	OTP-AM	H-145

This bill authorizes a licensed physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or registered nurse to issue a 21-day disability parking permit to a person with a disability to be used while the person is obtaining a temporary or permanent disability parking credential from the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-145)

The bill permits the Secretary of State to authorize certain medical professionals to issue a 21-day parking permit for a person with a disability. This amendment directs the Secretary of State to create a 21-day parking permit for a person with a disability to be used while that person is waiting to receive a disability registration plate or placard.

The amendment alters the requirement that the 21-day parking permit be displayed on a vehicle's dashboard to require instead that the 21-day parking permit be displayed in a manner so that it may be viewed from the front of the vehicle.