

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

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

MEMBERS:

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SEN. DOUGLAS A. THOMAS
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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

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

The amendment also directs the Secretary of State to adopt rules to establish qualifications and requirements for a person authorized to issue a 21-day parking permit.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 117 permits the Secretary of State to authorize certain medical professionals to issue a 21-day parking permit for a person with a disability. It 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 law requires that the 21-day parking permit be displayed in a manner so that it may be viewed from the front of the vehicle.

It also directs the Secretary of State to adopt rules to establish qualifications and requirements for a person authorized to issue a 21-day parking permit.

LD 471 An Act To Reduce Certain Highway Fund Obligations

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

Sponsor(s)

CEBRA
THOMAS

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

H-280

This bill:

1. Changes the state funding support for the Maine State Ferry Service from the Highway Fund to the General Fund;
2. Decreases the portion of the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police funding provided by the Highway Fund from 49% to 33% and increases the portion of funding provided by the General Fund from 51% to 67%; and
3. Provides that the amount of savings to the Highway Fund due to the transfer of support of the Maine State Ferry Service from the Highway Fund to the General Fund and due to the reduction of funding, from 49% to 33%, from the Highway Fund to support the Bureau of State Police must be used for highway resurfacing and maintenance paving.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-280)

This amendment strikes from the bill the provision that changes the source of the state funding support for the Maine State Ferry Service from the Highway Fund to the General Fund.

The amendment also strikes the provisions specifying that the amount of savings to the Highway Fund due to the transfer of support of the Maine State Ferry Service from the Highway Fund to the General Fund and due to the reduction of funding, from 49% to 33%, from the Highway Fund to support the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police must be used for highway resurfacing and maintenance paving.

The amendment leaves in place the provision in the bill that decreases the portion of the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police funding provided by the Highway Fund from 49% to 33% and increases the portion of funding provided by the General Fund from 51% to 67%.

The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.