

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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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 1123 An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

PUBLIC 448

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CEBRA COLLINS	OTP-AM	H-291 S-355 ROSEN R

This bill makes it a Class E crime if, at a time when a person's inspection mechanic license is suspended or revoked pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 1763, the person performs a state or federally approved motor vehicle inspection in order for a certificate of inspection or report to be issued by a 3rd party or issues a state or federally approved certificate of inspection or a report.

The bill permits Department of Labor motor vehicles operated by workplace safety inspectors to be equipped with auxiliary lights that emit an amber light.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-291)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-355)

This amendment establishes a July 1, 2012 effective date for the provision concerning the performance of a motor vehicle inspection by a person with a suspended or revoked inspection mechanic license and removes the General Fund appropriation of \$3,132 in fiscal year 2011-12.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 448 makes it a Class E crime if, at a time when a person's inspection mechanic license is suspended or revoked, the person performs a state or federally-approved motor vehicle inspection in order for a certificate of inspection or report to be issued by a third party or issues a state or federally-approved certificate of inspection or a report. The law establishes an effective date of July 1, 2012 for this provision.

The law also permits Department of Labor motor vehicles operated by workplace safety inspectors to be equipped with auxiliary lights that emit amber light.

LD 1124 An Act To Authorize the Use of Traffic Surveillance Cameras To Prove and Enforce Violations of Overtaking and Passing School Buses

Carried Over

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CEBRA COLLINS		

The bill allows a municipality, law enforcement agency or school administrative unit to enforce violations of overtaking and passing a school bus through the use of traffic surveillance cameras and automated license plate recognition systems that are attached to a school bus, and requires a fine imposed for a violation of overtaking and passing a school bus to accrue to the municipality in which the violation occurred.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

This bill also makes technical corrections by removing references to the term "forfeitures" to reflect the current usage in the statutes of the term "fine."

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 1148 An Act To Improve Vehicle Safety for First Responders ONTP

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

This bill allows emergency medical service vehicles, fire department vehicles and personal vehicles of emergency medical personnel, firefighters and police officers to be equipped with a device that provides for alternate flashing of the vehicle's brake or rear directional lights and back-up lights or strobe lights behind the rear brake lenses when responding to an emergency.

LD 1167 An Act To Protect the Privacy of Persons Involved in Reportable Motor Vehicle Accidents PUBLIC 390

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CEBRA COLLINS	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-406

This bill permits law enforcement officers to disclose certain information relating to motor vehicle accidents and permits law enforcement officers to furnish a copy of a motor vehicle accident report only to certain individuals specified in the bill. The bill also provides greater protection of the personal privacy of individuals who are involved in motor vehicle accidents and allows aggregated nonpersonally identifying accident report data to be publicly disseminated.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-405)

This amendment, which is the majority report, strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment reorganizes the provision of law relating to accident report information and makes technical changes.

The amendment provides that accident reports and information contained in accident reports, except as otherwise provided, are confidential and may be released only to a person who was involved in the accident that is the subject of the report as well as to:

1. That person's licensed attorney, licensed insurance representative or authorized agent if authorization is evidenced in writing;
2. That person's insurance carrier or insurance producer;
3. That person's family or household members, as long as no temporary or permanent protection from abuse or protection from harassment order against the requesting family or household member is in effect at the time the request is made;
4. If the person is a minor, that person's parent or legal guardian, as long as no temporary or permanent protection