

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

July 2013

**STAFF:**

KAREN NADEAU-DRILLEN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
&  
SUZANNE VOYNIK, 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

126<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* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> 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 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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 919      An Act To Require an Operator To Provide Evidence of Liability Insurance or Financial Responsibility at the Scene of an Accident**

**PUBLIC 291**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW	OTP-AM	H-251

This bill decreases from \$1,000 to \$250 the minimum monetary amount of property damage at which a motor vehicle accident is defined as a reportable accident.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-251)**

This amendment, which strikes and replaces the bill, requires the operator of a vehicle to provide evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility if the person is involved in an accident not on a public way or a place where public traffic may reasonably be anticipated that results in personal injury or death, an accident that results in damage to an attended vehicle, an accident that results in damage to an unattended vehicle or an accident anywhere that results in property damage. The amendment also provides that a person commits a traffic infraction if that person fails to meet this requirement.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 291 requires the operator of a vehicle to provide evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility if the person is involved in an accident not on a public way or a place where public traffic may reasonably be anticipated that results in personal injury or death, an accident that results in damage to an attended vehicle, an accident that results in damage to an unattended vehicle or an accident anywhere that results in property damage. The law also provides that a person commits a traffic infraction if that person fails to meet this requirement.

**LD 920      An Act To Prohibit Herbicide Spraying on Abandoned Railroad Lines**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCLEAN BOYLE	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill prohibits a state agency from applying herbicides to state-owned railroad lines that are abandoned or discontinued unless the State has contracted with an operator to provide service over the line.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-113)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**LD 937      An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Disability Parking Spaces**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AYOTTE JACKSON T	ONTP	

## *Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

This bill makes van-accessible handicapped parking spaces with an access aisle that are labeled as van-accessible available only to vans or vehicles adapted for use of a van-accessible parking space. It also increases the penalty range for violations of parking in access aisles from \$200 to \$500 to \$300 to \$600.

**LD 943      An Act To Amend Provisions of the Law Pertaining to Motor Vehicles**

**PUBLIC 112**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAZUREK PARRY	OTP-AM	S-40

This bill amends various provisions of the motor vehicle laws.

It provides that a person who violates the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, chapter 256 pertaining to the transport of hazardous materials, or a rule adopted pursuant to that chapter, commits a Class D crime, unless the violation is discovered during a routine compliance review. If the violation is discovered during a routine compliance review, the violation is a civil violation.

It amends the definition of "motor vehicle" to clarify that the term means a self-propelled vehicle not operated exclusively on railroad tracks.

It repeals the definition of "team" in Title 29-A, section 101.

It creates the traffic infraction of failing to properly register a motor vehicle as to its current actual use or motor vehicle type.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-40)**

This amendment adds a the definition of "not properly registered" and includes an example relating to antique autos.

The amendment also provides that the Chief Judge of the District Court may approve for use an electronic Violation Summons and Complaint form.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 112 amends various provisions of the motor vehicle laws.

It provides that a person who violates the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, chapter 256 pertaining to the transport of hazardous materials, or a rule adopted pursuant to that chapter, commits a Class D crime, unless the violation is discovered during a routine compliance review. If the violation is discovered during a routine compliance review, the violation is a civil violation.

It amends the definition of "motor vehicle" to clarify that the term means a self-propelled vehicle not operated exclusively on railroad tracks.

It repeals the definition of "team" in Title 29-A, section 101.

It creates the traffic infraction of failing to properly register a motor vehicle as to its current actual use or motor vehicle type.