

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

August 2015

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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 127th 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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 323 **Resolve, To Provide Funding to the Department of Transportation To Complete a Service Plan for the Development of Passenger Rail Service to Lewiston and Auburn **Died On Adjournment****

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDEN LIBBY	OTP-AM	H-28

This bill provides one-time funding to complete the final engineering design and environmental assessment for the state-owned portion of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad line from Yarmouth Junction to the Lewiston-Auburn area.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-28)

This amendment, which replaces the bill with a resolve, directs the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, to conduct a study and complete a plan for the implementation of passenger rail service between the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the Amtrak Downeaster service. The amendment also decreases the funding to complete the study from a one-time Highway Fund allocation of \$1,000,000, as proposed in the bill, to \$500,000 in the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

LD 333 **An Act To Help Veterans To Receive Benefits **ONTP****

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

The bill provides that a driver's license or nondriver identification card with a military service designation requested by a veteran must bear the word "Veteran."

LD 345 **An Act To Require Motorists To Move to a Nonadjacent Lane or Slow Down for Certain Stationary Vehicles **ONTP****

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

This bill adds public utility emergency service vehicles and refuse, garbage and trash business vehicles to the list of stationary vehicles for which a motorist must move to a nonadjacent lane or, if moving to a nonadjacent lane is impossible or unsafe, slow down.

See also LDs 196 and 371.

LD 348 **An Act To Provide for 2-year Motor Vehicle Inspection Stickers **ONTP****

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

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

This bill changes the law to require motor vehicle inspections every two years.

LD 363 An Act Regarding Learner's Permits for Driver's Licenses ONTP

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

This bill allows a designee of the Secretary of State or a person licensed as a driver education instructor to do the following:

1. Collect fees for a learner's permit for a driver's license;
2. Collect application materials for a learner's permit;
3. Administer an examination for a learner's permit; and
4. Issue a learner's permit.

Current law allows only the Secretary of State to perform these functions. See also LD 682.

LD 371 An Act To Enhance Safety for Highway Maintenance Vehicles ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS O'CONNOR	ONTP	

This bill adds highway maintenance vehicles to the list of stationary vehicles for which a motorist must slow down or move to a nonadjacent lane, if possible.

See also LDs 196 and 345.

LD 381 An Act To Change the Motor Vehicle Inspection Requirements To Extend the Time between Inspections ONTP

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

This bill changes the annual inspection requirement for motor vehicles, except for commercial vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, to a biennial inspection requirement. The bill provides that a new motor vehicle that has had an inspection is not required to have another inspection until four years from the last day of the month in which it was initially registered. The bill provides that a new motor vehicle does not include a commercial motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer. The bill also changes the annual enhanced inspection requirement for vehicles registered in Cumberland County in a similar manner.