

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

and at least one representative of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority to participate in council meetings.

The council is required to report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters and health and human services matters by March 1st of each odd-numbered year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-186)

This amendment removes representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Economic and Community Development from the Public Transit Advisory Council, which the bill creates. The bill requires the council to make recommendations for the optimal coordination of transit services with other senior and veteran services provided by the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health and Human Services. The amendment requires the council to make recommendations for the optimal coordination of transit services with other senior and veteran services generally, without reference to those services provided by the departments.

It also removes the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services from the list of entities the Department of Transportation must consult with when designating regional public transportation agencies, approving locally coordinated plans for regional transit and coordinating purchase of service contracts.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 182 replaces the requirement in current law for biennial plans for regional transit with a requirement for quinquennial plans, which is consistent with federal requirements. The law eliminates the Interagency Transportation Coordinating Committee and replaces it with a new Public Transit Advisory Council. The council is required to assist state agencies and the Legislature on issues related to public transit services. The council is required to report to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters and health and human services matters by March 1st of each odd-numbered year.

LD 845 An Act To Address Unmet Public Transportation Needs

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JORGENSEN VALENTINO	OTP-AM	H-121

This bill provides an ongoing General Fund appropriation to the Department of Transportation of \$3,000,000 beginning in fiscal year 2015-16. The bill also requires the State Controller to transfer, beginning June 1, 2016 and every June 1st thereafter, \$500,000 from the Multimodal Transportation Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Transportation, to the Multimodal Transit Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Transportation. The funds must be distributed to public transportation providers statewide to better meet the need for such services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-121)

This amendment strikes from the bill the requirement that the State Controller transfer, beginning June 1, 2016 and every June 1st thereafter, \$500,000 from the Multimodal Transportation Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Transportation, to the Multimodal Transit Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Transportation.

This bill was carried over on the Special Appropriations Table to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 555.