

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

August 2017

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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* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 128<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. 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.

*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 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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 314 An Act Concerning Emergency Lights on Police Vehicles**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK A MCLEAN A		

This bill was not referred to committee.

This bill permits the use of a combination of blue and red emergency lights on police vehicles and on certain other vehicles used by law enforcement, corrections and court security personnel.

**LD 315 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Apply for Funds for Rail Improvements**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N SHEATS B	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to pursue various federal passenger rail grants and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than December 1, 2017 on the details of the grant applications, the amount of state matching funds required and recommendations for how the State can be a more competitive applicant for federal passenger rail grants.

**LD 371 An Act To Allow a Truck Carrying Perishable Products To Operate on a Posted Road without a Permit**

**ONTP**

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

This bill exempts commercial motor vehicles hauling perishable products from the restrictions on ways requiring special protection by the Department of Transportation, counties or municipalities.

**LD 381 An Act To Allow Delivery Vehicles To Display Lighted Advertising Signs**

**Died Between Houses**

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

This bill allows a delivery vehicle to display a lighted advertising sign on its roof.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-238)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment allows a privately owned automobile used for home delivery of commercially prepared food to display an illuminated sign at nighttime and during delivery.

**Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 393      An Act To Clarify That the Department of Transportation Is Exempt from Property Assessment Liabilities When Acquiring Property by Condemnation      PUBLIC 40**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY J COLLINS R	OTP-AM	H-23

This bill clarifies that the Department of Transportation is not required to pay taxes or assessments on property it acquires for transportation purposes. The bill provides that the previous property owner is not liable for assessments or other tax liabilities on the condemned property for any period of time during which that owner no longer owns the property.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-23)**

This amendment strikes the provisions in the bill that provide that the previous property owner is not liable for assessments or other tax liabilities on the condemned property for any period of time during which that owner no longer owns the property and that determine the time period for the pro rata portion of property taxes paid by the previous property owner.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 40 clarifies that the Department of Transportation is not required to pay taxes or assessments on property it acquires for transportation purposes.

**LD 434      An Act To Allow Certain Vehicles To Make a Right Turn on a Red Light Even When Prohibited      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BATTLE K MIRAMANT D	ONTP	

This bill allows the operator of a lightweight vehicle facing a steady and circular red light, after stopping for a reasonable amount of time, to proceed cautiously through the intersection before the light on the traffic-control device turns green if no other vehicles are present at the intersection to actuate the traffic-control device. "Lightweight vehicle" means a motorcycle, moped or bicycle, including a motorized bicycle, motorized tricycle or motorized scooter or a motor vehicle not heavy enough to actuate a traffic-control device sensor.

**LD 435      Resolve, To Study the Feasibility and Cost of Providing Passenger Rail Service to the City of Bangor      Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY M GRATWICK G	ONTP OTP-AM	

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to study the feasibility and cost of providing passenger rail service to the City of Bangor.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-26)**