

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH 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

128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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 128th 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 128th 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

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)

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

This amendment provides \$300,000 to fund the cost of studying the feasibility and cost of providing passenger rail service to Bangor.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 436 An Act To Allow Intermediate Driver's License Holders To Drive ONTP
between Midnight and 5:00 a.m. for School Activities

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

This bill allows a student at a secondary school holding an intermediate driver's license to operate a motor vehicle between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m. if the operation of the motor vehicle is required for a school-sanctioned activity.

LD 437 An Act Concerning Maine's Transportation Infrastructure ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to enact measures designed to strengthen the laws concerning transportation infrastructure in the State.

LD 444 An Act To Increase the Maximum Registered Gross Weight Allowed for PUBLIC 43
Vehicles with Disabled Veterans or Special Veterans Registration Plates

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THIBODEAU M GILLWAY J	OTP	

This bill increases from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds the upper registered gross weight limit of vehicles that may have disabled veteran or special veterans registration plates.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 43 increases from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds the upper registered gross weight limit of vehicles that may have disabled veteran or special veterans registration plates.

LD 460 An Act To Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for P & S 3
the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December
31, 2018

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	S-8