

# 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

This bill makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2018 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-8)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

### Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2017, chapter 3 makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2018 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

### LD 494      **An Act Regarding the Department of Transportation**      **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 amend the laws governing the Department of Transportation.

### LD 495      **An Act To Protect Historic Places and Structures on the Federal Aid Highway System**      **ONTP**

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

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act when performing construction or maintenance on a federal aid highway that involves or affects a structure or place listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### **LD 500**      **An Act To Allow the Formation of Transportation Corridor Districts**      **Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D BEEBE-CENTER P	OTP ONTP	

This bill provides for the formation of transportation corridor districts within the current law relating to transit districts and regional transportation corporations. The bill provides that a municipality may, by itself or in cooperation with one or more other municipalities, form a transportation corridor district for the purposes of providing an environment to fund public transportation and accessibility needs, including passenger rail, ferry, bus, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and routes, and promoting economic development at transportation station areas and in downtown areas.

The bill requires a municipality or group of municipalities to select the borders of the transportation corridor

***Joint Standing Committee on Transportation***

district. The bill requires that the formation of a transportation corridor district be approved by a voter referendum in each participating municipality. The bill authorizes a district's board of directors, with approval from all municipalities in the district, to change the borders of the district. The bill also provides that a transportation corridor district, if approved by voter referendum in each municipality participating in the district, may borrow money temporarily and issue its negotiable notes for that money and issue securities of the district.

**LD 542 An Act To Increase Railroad Freight Safety**

**ONTP**

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

This bill requires a railroad company or railroad authority to ensure that there are at least two employees on a freight train traveling on a railroad line within the State, except for a freight train traveling for hostler service, and includes a penalty provision.

**LD 584 An Act To Create the Fund for Municipalities To Improve Pedestrian Safety**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill establishes the Fund for Municipalities To Improve Pedestrian Safety as a program account in the Highway Fund within the Department of Transportation. The bill provides that the fund must be used for pedestrian safety improvements, such as lights, paint, signs, speed bumps and reconstruction of intersections. The bill also provides that a municipality or a group of municipalities may apply for funding from the fund. Up to two-third of project costs for pedestrian safety improvements may be financed from the fund with the remainder of the costs provided by the municipality or group of municipalities.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 591 An Act To Require Motorists To Yield to Transit Buses**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B	OTP-AM ONTP	S-133

This bill allows municipalities to adopt local ordinances requiring vehicle operators to yield the right-of-way to a bus.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-133)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment requires an operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a transit bus traveling in the same direction if the transit bus has signaled and is reentering the traffic flow from a bus stop or shoulder of the roadway.