

STATE OF MAINE 128^{TH} 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

 $128^{\text{TH}} LEGISLATURE$ 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 OVERcarried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature	p
CON RES XXX	
CON RES AXA $(1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3,$	з 1
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died	a
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES	
DIED IN CONCURRENCE defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died	d
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT action incomplete when session ended; legislation died	d
EMERGENCYenacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment	t
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGEemergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote	е
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE failed to receive final majority vote	е
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENTlegislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote	е
HELD BY GOVERNOR Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session	n
LEAVE TO WITHDRAWsponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted	
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODYruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died	d
INDEF PP indefinitely postponed; legislation died	d
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died	d
P&S XXX	v
PUBLIC XXX	v
RESOLVE XXX	е
VETO SUSTAINEDLegislature failed to override Governor's veto	0
	-

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

LD 649 An Act To Allow for Charitable Donation Stops on Local Roads Only

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DILLINGHAM K	ONTP OTP	

This bill allows a charitable nonprofit organization that has received municipal and local law enforcement authorization to stop traffic to solicit a contribution on a town way.

LD 709 An Act Regarding the License Restrictions for New Drivers ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STEWART H	ONTP	
CARPENTER M		

This bill allows the Secretary of State to waive up to 90 days of the 270-day period of restrictions for a person with an intermediate license if that person applies for a waiver of the period of license restrictions. The bill directs the Secretary of State to adopt rules to establish the application criteria and process by which a person may qualify for a waiver of the period of license restrictions for a person with an intermediate license. The bill also provides that the Secretary of State may not accept the application of a minor for a waiver unless the application is signed by a parent or guardian; signed by the spouse of the minor, as long as the spouse is 18 years of age or older; if the minor does not have a parent, guardian or spouse who is 18 years of age or older, signed by an employer is 18 years of age or older; or accompanied by an attested copy of a court order of emancipation.

LD 710An Act Regarding Emergency Lights on Firefighters' Personal VehiclesONTPUsed When Responding to Emergency CallsONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STEWART H CARPENTER M	ONTP	

This bill allows municipal and volunteer firefighters who are responding to emergency calls in personal vehicles to use red or red and white emergency lights on the rear of the vehicles similar to those permitted to be used on the front of the vehicles.

LD 711 An Act To Revise the Laws Governing Learner's Permits and ONTP Intermediate Driver's Licenses and Driver Education Textbook Requirements

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KINNEY M MAKER J	ONTP	

This bill increases from six to 12 months the amount of time a person under 21 years of age must hold a driver learner's permit. It restricts to parents and siblings the passengers a person under 18 years of age holding an intermediate driver's license may drive with and changes the hours such a person may drive from between the hours

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

of 5 a.m. and 12 a.m. to between the hours of 5 a.m. and 9 p.m., except that it allows such a person working at night to drive until 10 p.m. It also amends the law regarding the Secretary of State's duties to require the adoption of a driver education curriculum and the use of textbooks developed by a nationwide automobile association.

LD 712 Resolve, To Designate a Portion of Route 43 in Corinth, Exeter and RESOLVE 5 Corinna the Donald Strout, Sr., Memorial Highway

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	
DUCHESNE R CUSHING A	OTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to designate Route 43 from its intersection with Route 15 in the Town of Corinna the Donald Strout, Sr., Memorial Highway.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2017, chapter 5 directs the Department of Transportation to designate Route 43 from its intersection with Route 15 in the Town of Corinna the Donald Strout, Sr., Memorial Highway.

LD 724 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the State's Rail Authority

Died Between Houses

Amendments Adopted

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LIBBY N GOLDEN J	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill transfers the budget approval authority for the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority from the Department of Transportation to the Legislature. It requires the authority to present its annual report to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs. It also requires the authority to hold timely and appropriate forums for public input and vetting of significant projects throughout the project selection, design and implementation processes. Finally, the bill directs the passenger rail advisory council within the Department of Transportation to meet four times a year and to serve as a public forum for input on passenger rail planning and provide the public with updates on the operational, capital and financial structure of passenger and freight railroad operations in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-42)

This amendment places the Passenger Rail Advisory Council, established in the bill, in a different section of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23; provides more detail about membership, staff and number of meetings; and removes freight rail operations from the council's oversight. Unlike the bill, the amendment requires no changes in the annual reporting by the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority to the Legislative Council or to the Commissioner of Transportation.

This amendment was not adopted.