

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

August 2019

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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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 Part allows TransCap Trust Fund nonbond funds to be used for capital projects with an anticipated useful life of 5 years or more.

**PART J**

This Part repeals the section of law that excludes the Marine Highway account within the Highway Fund from the Local Road Assistance Program calculation.

**PART K**

This Part provides allocations to increase by 5% the base salary of one Public Service Executive I position and one Public Service Manager II position within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles. This Part also requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources to make a corresponding change to the bureau's rules governing compensation.

Public Law 2019, chapter 415 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2019.

**LD 1034      An Act To Provide Revenue To Fix and Rebuild Maine's Transportation Infrastructure      CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill does the following for the purpose of increasing revenue to the Highway Fund and for other transportation purposes.

1. It increases certain fees charged by the Secretary of State for driver's license examinations, temporary license plates, nondriver identification cards, duplicate registrations, titles, driver's licenses, nondriver identification cards and transfers of registrations.
2. It increases the sales tax on the short-term rental of automobiles and certain pickup trucks and vans from 10% to 12%.
3. It requires 5% of the sales tax imposed on transportation-related items, such as motor vehicles and products for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles, such as motor oil, batteries and tires, to be transferred to the Highway Fund on a monthly basis.
4. Beginning October 1, 2019, it increases the tax imposed on gasoline to 36.5¢ per gallon and the tax imposed on special fuel to 37.7¢ per gallon.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 1075      An Act To Allow a Wrecker To Transport the Number of Vehicles Authorized by Manufacturer Specifications for the Wrecker      ONTP**

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

*Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

Current law provides that "wrecker" does not include a vehicle designed to carry or tow more than two vehicles on its own body. This bill strikes that language and provides that a wrecker may not carry or tow more vehicles than allowed by the manufacturer specifications for that wrecker.

**LD 1084 An Act Regarding the Operation of Pedal-powered Tour Vehicles**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN H SYLVESTER M		

This bill defines "pedal-powered tour vehicle" and permits such vehicles to be used on public ways. The bill provides that a municipality may restrict the operation of a pedal-powered tour vehicle on a public way within the municipality only by requiring evidence of liability insurance and compliance with equipment standards and traffic restrictions established by the municipality.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 1141 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Construct the Merrymeeting Trail from Topsham to Gardiner**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WARREN C VITELLI E		

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to construct a recreational trail, to be known as the Merrymeeting Trail, along the existing railroad corridor owned by the department from the Town of Topsham to the City of Gardiner.

This resolve was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 1157 An Act To Fix Maine's Roads and Bridges by Establishing a Seasonal Gasoline Tax Adjustment**

**ONTP**

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

This bill adjusts the tax imposed on gasoline on a seasonal basis, so that the tax is 27¢ per gallon from November 1st to May 31st and 37¢ per gallon from June 1st to October 31st annually. The current tax rate on gasoline is 30¢ per gallon. This bill also repeals the requirement that an inventory tax be paid on gasoline on hand whenever there is an increase in the tax.