

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH 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 129th 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 129th 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

LD 1258 An Act To Increase Access to Transportation for Workforce and Other Essential Transportation Needs

CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SHEATS B CHIPMAN B | OTP-AM | H-453 |

This bill requires the quinquennial locally coordinated plan for regional transit submitted by each regional public transportation agency to focus on meeting workforce needs.

This bill also provides funding to the Department of Transportation to support and expand local volunteer driver networks; to create a pilot purchase of service program in a selected region of the State to provide senior citizens and persons with disabilities vouchers to purchase their own transportation services; and for regional transportation providers throughout the State, split evenly between rural and urban areas, to expand their services, including addressing regional workforce needs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-453)

This amendment provides funding to the Department of Transportation from the General Fund instead of the Highway Fund to support and expand local volunteer driver networks and for regional transportation providers through the State to expand their services. Resources must be distributed evenly between urban and rural areas.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1266 An Act To Create Transportation Corridor Districts for the Purpose of Funding Transportation and Transit Services

PUBLIC 242

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHIPMAN B BRYANT M | OTP | |

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 serve 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 district. The bill requires that the formation of a transportation corridor district be approved by 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.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 242 provides for the formation of transportation corridor districts within the current law relating to transit districts and regional transportation corporations. It 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 serve accessibility needs, including passenger rail, ferry,

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

bus, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and routes, and promoting economic development at transportation station areas and in downtown areas.

The law requires a municipality or group of municipalities to select the borders of the transportation corridor district. It requires that the formation of a transportation corridor district be approved by voter referendum in each participating municipality. The law authorizes a district's board of directors, with approval from all municipalities in the district, to change the borders of the district. It 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 1269 An Act To Update the Laws Governing Child Safety Seats and Seat Belts

PUBLIC 299

Sponsor(s)
CYRWAY S
NADEAU C

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-217

This bill amends the laws governing the use of seat belts and child restraint systems in motor vehicles. It defines several types of child restraint systems and establishes requirements for the use of child restraint systems based on a child's age, height and weight. It increases the fines for violations of the law. It repeals a provision in current law making the nonuse of seat belts or the failure to secure a child not admissible in evidence in a civil or criminal trial involving a motor vehicle accident.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-217)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It defines "convertible child restraint system" and allows a child under 2 years of age properly secured in a convertible child restraint system to ride in a forward-facing position if the child exceeds the manufacturer recommended weight limit for a rear-facing position.
2. It retains fines for the violation of seat belt laws at current statutory levels.
3. It removes the changes in the bill regarding the inadmissibility of evidence for failure to properly secure a child.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 299 amends the laws governing the use of seat belts and child restraint systems in motor vehicles. It defines several types of child restraint systems and establishes requirements for the use of child restraint systems based on a child's age, height and weight.

LD 1310 An Act To Address the Shortage of Department of Transportation Snowplow Drivers and Other Transportation Workers

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
MIRAMANT D
BRYANT M

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill addresses the shortage of snowplow drivers and other transportation workers in the Department of Transportation by:

1. Establishing five new Transportation Crew Supervisor positions; and