

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

November 2020

STAFF:

SAMUEL W. PRAWER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>
AND
SUZANNE VOYNIK, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635
<http://legislature.maine.gov/ofpr/>

MEMBERS:

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 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

2. Increasing the rate of pay for certain positions in the Department of Transportation by \$2 per hour.

LD 1390 An Act To Fund Saco Area Traffic Improvements

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J O'NEIL M	ONTP	

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill, based on the recommendations of the study conducted jointly by the Department of Transportation, the Maine Turnpike Authority and the City of Saco, provides 40% of the estimated cost of the construction of a new exit and spur from the Maine Turnpike to serve communities near Exit 36 of the Maine Turnpike, such as Saco, Old Orchard Beach and Hollis. The recommendation of the study was for the cost to be split as follows: 40% to be provided by the Department of Transportation; 40% to be provided by the Maine Turnpike Authority; and 20% to be provided by the City of Saco.

LD 1498 An Act To Provide Equity for Commercial Vehicles on Roads and Bridges in Maine

PUBLIC 624

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T MCLEANA	OTP-AM	S-428

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

Current law allows certain commercial vehicles at Canadian weight limits that are higher than those in this State to travel from the United States-Canada border to certain points in this State. This bill repeals that law and allows certain commercial vehicles to be operated in this State at those higher weight limits. A combination vehicle consisting of a three-axle truck tractor with a tri-axle semitrailer may be operated with a maximum gross vehicle weight of 108,900 pounds. A combination vehicle consisting of a three-axle truck tractor with a semitrailer-semitrailer combination configured as a B-train double with eight axles total may be operated with a gross vehicle weight of 137,700 pounds.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-428)

This amendment does the following.

1. It states that after December 31, 2025, the Department of Transportation may not authorize certain routes from the United States-Canada border to certain points in this State for commercial vehicles transporting wood at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits; and
2. It requires the department to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters by January 1, 2024, regarding the effects on road conditions and recommendations for continuance, discontinuance or modification of allowing certain commercial vehicles to travel at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits. It allows the joint standing committee to submit legislation based on the findings and recommendations in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 624 does the following:

1. It states that after December 31, 2025, the Department of Transportation may not authorize certain routes from the United States-Canada border to certain points in this State for commercial vehicles transporting wood at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits; and
2. It requires the department to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters by January 1, 2024, regarding the effects on road conditions and recommendations for continuance, discontinuance or modification of allowing certain commercial vehicles to travel at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits. It allows the joint standing committee to submit legislation based on the findings and recommendations in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 1533 An Act To Eliminate Registration Plate Decals

ONTP

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

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the Secretary of State must issue annual registration plates or decals. It repeals language setting the price for replacement decals for plates at 50¢ each. It repeals a provision that makes it a Class E crime to attach or display on a vehicle registration plate a decal issued for another vehicle.

LD 1714 Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Enter into a Reciprocal Agreement between the State and Taiwan Regarding Driver's Licenses

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T KEIM L	ONTP	

This resolve was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This resolve directs the Secretary of State to begin negotiations toward the development of a reciprocal agreement between the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Taiwan for reciprocity, beginning January 1, 2021, in issuing driver's licenses to residents of this State who reside in Taiwan and to Taiwanese citizens who reside in this State.