

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
129<sup>TH</sup> 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

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# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> 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 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.

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to one another on the same highway as one bridge for the purposes of that designation.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 565 requires the Department of Transportation to designate Bridge 5818 on Interstate 95, which crosses Main Street in the City of Waterville, the Specialist Wade A. Slack Memorial Bridge. The bill also requires the department, when designating a bridge in this State with a specific name, to deem separate bridges that run parallel to one another on the same highway as one bridge for the purposes of that designation.

**LD 1876      Resolve, To Name Bridge 3880 in the Town of Dresden the Veterans Memorial Bridge      RESOLVE 118**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HEPLER A VITELLIE	OTP	

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to name Bridge 3880 in the Town of Dresden the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 118 requires the Department of Transportation to name Bridge 3880 in the Town of Dresden the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

**LD 1886      Resolve, To Rename the Sibley Pond Bridge the William Harris Memorial Bridge      RESOLVE 127  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOORE D FARRIN B	OTP	

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Sibley Pond Bridge in the Town of Canaan and the Town of Pittsfield the William Harris Memorial Bridge.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 127 requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Sibley Pond Bridge in the Town of Canaan and the Town of Pittsfield the William Harris Memorial Bridge.

Resolve 2019, chapter 127 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 18, 2020.

**LD 1887      Resolve, To Reduce the Operational Costs of Ferries in the State      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCDONALD G VITELLI E	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation, Maine State Ferry Service to seek alternative fuel sources for its ferry vessels, including electricity from renewable sources, in order to help reduce or control ongoing operational costs as well as to help the State meet its climate goals. It directs the Maine State Ferry Service to develop an evaluation process to compare the cost of fuel over the anticipated service life of a vessel powered by electricity and

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a vessel powered by fossil fuel to use as part of the new vessel procurement process. The department is directed to perform a feasibility assessment to determine the costs and barriers associated with the use by the Maine State Ferry Service of ferry vessels powered by electricity instead of fossil fuel and to submit a report on its findings and the vessel evaluation process developed by the Maine State Ferry Service to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by July 31, 2020.

**LD 1899 An Act To Amend Certain Motor Vehicle Laws**

**PUBLIC 634**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRIN B BRYANT M	OTP-AM	S-419

This bill makes the following changes to the motor vehicle laws.

1. It clarifies the law with respect to weight requirements for heavy duty recovery vehicles.
2. It allows the Secretary of State to assist law enforcement entities by providing driver's license biometric technology records. The bill prohibits the Secretary of State from allowing an outside entity to use biometric technology to search driver's license records.
3. It repeals the law establishing the Motor Carrier Review Board in order to remove conflicts with the motor carrier review process conducted by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-419)**

This amendment allows the Secretary of State to provide information, including digital images, produced by searching its records using facial recognition technology to law enforcement agencies only in emergency circumstances involving an immediate threat to the life of a person or pursuant to major substantive rules adopted by the Secretary of State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 634 makes the following changes to the motor vehicle laws.

1. It clarifies the law with respect to weight requirements for heavy duty recovery vehicles.
2. It allows the Secretary of State to provide information, including digital images, produced by searching its records using facial recognition technology to law enforcement agencies only in emergency circumstances involving an immediate threat to the life of a person or pursuant to major substantive rules adopted by the Secretary of State.
3. It repeals the law establishing the Motor Carrier Review Board in order to remove conflicts with the motor carrier review process conducted by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

**LD 1900 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Motor Vehicle Child Restraint Systems To Allow Certain Exceptions**

**PUBLIC 577**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S O'NEIL M	OTP-AM	S-382