

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND  
SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature’s webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 and First Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature is Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, respectively. 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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recommend highway improvements that will substantially improve safety, mobility and economic opportunity in northern Maine; and identify the economic and social benefits and costs of improved integration between highway systems in Canada and Maine. By December 31, 2023, the department must submit a report that includes the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The committee is allowed to report out legislation based on the recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

### **LD 652 An Act to Allow the Reinstatement of Certain Commercial Driver's Licenses**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 108 allows for the reinstatement, in accordance with 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 383.51(a)(6) (2023), of a commercial license of any driver who has been disqualified for life from operating a commercial motor vehicle for offenses described in paragraphs (b)(1) to (b)(8) of Table 1 to 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 383.51 (2023).

### **LD 686 An Act to Enhance Safety for Animal-drawn Vehicles on Highways**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 301 allows for a slow-moving vehicle emblem to be used instead of the requirement for an animal-drawn vehicle to be equipped with reflective tape.

### **LD 687 An Act to Increase the Allowable Width of a Snowplow**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 72 increases from 108 inches to 126 inches the maximum allowable width of a vehicle with a snowplow and equipment mounted on the vehicle traveling from one work location to another work location during a storm event or from the point of purchase to a storage location.

### **LD 754 Resolve, Directing the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada Legislative Commission to Examine Restoring Passenger Rail from Boston to Montreal**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 101 directs the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada Legislative Commission to examine restoring passenger rail from Boston, Massachusetts to Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The commissions are directed to

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submit a report with their findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by December 6, 2023.

### **LD 819 An Act to Reduce the Penalty for Operating a Motor Vehicle Under a Suspended License in Certain Situations**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 312 provides that a person commits a traffic infraction when operating while a license is suspended if the sole basis for suspension is failure to provide proof of insurance to the Secretary of State, failure to pay child support, failure to appear in court or failure to comply with a medical examination request from the Secretary of State.

### **LD 966 An Act to Align the Automobile Title Requirements with Those of Antique Automobiles**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 402 exempts all vehicles from title requirements when they are more than 25 years old, except when the Secretary of State determines it is in the best interest of the State and the applicant to issue a title to a vehicle more than 25 years old.

### **LD 980 An Act Regarding Passing Stationary Motor Vehicles on Public Ways**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 122 requires an operator of a vehicle passing a stationary vehicle that is disabled or using flashing lights to pass in a nonadjacent lane or at a careful and prudent speed. The fine for violating this requirement is not less than \$275.

### **LD 1019 An Act Regarding Water Testing Related to Storage Facilities**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 367 includes private water supplies that are hydrogeologically downgradient from a state-owned salt storage facility in the law governing the contamination of private water supplies adjacent to state or state aid highways. It requires the Department of Transportation to arrange for and pay the cost of testing the private water supplies for any contaminants that may derive from the department constructing, reconstructing or maintaining a state aid or state-owned highway or storing salt in a state-owned salt storage facility upon request by the landowner.