

STATE OF MAINE  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

June 2024

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# *Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

## **SUBJECT INDEX**

### **BMV Services**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1138	An Act to Improve Work and Family Mobility by Altering and Removing Certain Requirements for Driver's Licenses and Nondriver Identification Cards	ONTP
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### **Bridges**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 402	Resolve, to Rename Bridges in the Towns of Limerick, Hiram and Limington	RESOLVE 176
	LD 2173	Resolve, to Rename the Interstate 295 Interchange in the Town of Freeport the Matthew MacMillan Bridge	RESOLVE 140
	LD 2183	Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury	RESOLVE 131
	LD 2239	Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Mechanic Falls the Bill Dunlop Memorial Bridge	RESOLVE 161

### **Driver Education**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2281	An Act to Reconvene a Driver Education Working Group to Evaluate Hardships to Underserved Populations and Low-Income Families	PUBLIC 595
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### **Marine Transportation**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 235	An Act to Promote Economic Development in the Fishing Industry by Funding a Dredging Project in Portland Harbor	ONTP
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### **Miscellaneous**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 401	An Act to Improve Transportation in Maine	ONTP
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### *Miscellaneous, Transportation*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 1640	An Act Directing the Department of Transportation to Adopt Rules Regarding Corrosion Mitigation Methods for Steel Bridges	PUBLIC 657
	LD 2072	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Motor Vehicles	PUBLIC 634
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 932	An Act Requiring Climate Impact Notes on Proposed Transportation Legislation and Agency Rules	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1177	An Act to Assess an Impact Fee on Megayachts	HELD BY GOVERNOR

### *Railroads*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 860	An Act to Identify the Railroad Lines from Portland to Bangor as a Major Corridor and to Fund a Feasibility Study	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1450	An Act to Fund the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1750	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Complete a Service Plan and Determine the Scope of Work for Restoration of Rail Use of the Berlin Subdivision Rail Corridor from Downtown Portland to Auburn	ONTP

### *Registration Plates*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2049	An Act to Increase Safety for Child Welfare Services Workers	PUBLIC 542
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 2098	An Act Regarding Multiple Special Designating Plates for Certain Disabled Veterans	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310

### *Roads*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2056	Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway	RESOLVE 132
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### **Traffic Regulations**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 63	An Act to Clarify That Certain Imported Motor Vehicles Are Not Off-road Vehicles	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 527	An Act to Allow Municipalities to Create Bicycle and Pedestrian Zones with Reduced Speed Limits	ONTP

### **Trails**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1450	An Act to Fund the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council	CARRIED OVER
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### **Transportation Funding**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2229	An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025	PUBLIC 645
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1210	An Act to Establish a Maine Highway Capital Fund to Provide Consistent Funding for the Construction and Repair of Maine's Roads and Bridges	ONTP

### **Turnpike Authority**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2190	An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025	P & S 19
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### **Vehicle Regulations**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 369	An Act to Allow Repurposed Military Vehicles to Be Registered and Operated on Maine Roads	ONTP
	LD 875	An Act to Allow Mini-trucks to Be Operated on Roads in the State	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
	LD 1455	An Act to Establish the Weighing Point Preclearance Program	ONTP
	LD 2116	An Act to Require Flame-retardant Seats on New School Buses	ONTP



DIGEST OF BILLS  
131ST LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 2024

**Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
TRA	63	An Act to Clarify That Certain Imported Motor Vehicles Are Not Off-road Vehicles	ONTP/OTP-AM	2/26/2024	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
TRA	235	An Act to Promote Economic Development in the Fishing Industry by Funding a Dredging Project in Portland Harbor	ONTP	1/23/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	369	An Act to Allow Repurposed Military Vehicles to Be Registered and Operated on Maine Roads	ONTP	2/6/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	401	An Act to Improve Transportation in Maine	ONTP	4/12/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	402	Resolve, to Rename Bridges in the Towns of Limerick, Hiram and Limington	OTP-AM	4/12/2024	Finally Passed	RESLV	176	
TRA	527	An Act to Allow Municipalities to Create Bicycle and Pedestrian Zones with Reduced Speed Limits	ONTP	2/6/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	860	An Act to Identify the Railroad Lines from Portland to Bangor as a Major Corridor and to Fund a Feasibility Study	ONTP/OTP-AM	3/7/2024				

DIGEST OF BILLS  
131ST LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 2024

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
TRA	875	An Act to Allow Mini-trucks to Be Operated on Roads in the State	LTW	3/18/2024	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	932	An Act Requiring Climate Impact Notes on Proposed Transportation Legislation and Agency Rules	ONTP/OTP-AM	2/8/2024	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
TRA	1138	An Act to Improve Work and Family Mobility by Altering and Removing Certain Requirements for Driver's Licenses and Nondriver Identification Cards	ONTP	1/23/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	1177	An Act to Assess an Impact Fee on Megayachts	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/12/2023	Held by Governor			
TRA	1210	An Act to Establish a Maine Highway Capital Fund to Provide Consistent Funding for the Construction and Repair of Maine's Roads and Bridges	ONTP	1/23/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	1450	An Act to Fund the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/12/2023				
TRA	1455	An Act to Establish the Weighing Point Preclearance Program	ONTP	1/23/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	1640	An Act Directing the Department of Transportation to Adopt Rules Regarding Corrosion Mitigation Methods for Steel Bridges	OTP-AM	2/26/2024	Enacted	PL	657	



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131ST LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 2024

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
TRA	1750	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Complete a Service Plan and Determine the Scope of Work for Restoration of Rail Use of the Berlin Subdivision Rail Corridor from Downtown Portland to Auburn	ONTP	2/6/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	2049	An Act to Increase Safety for Child Welfare Services Workers	OTP	2/23/2024	Enacted	PL	542	
TRA	2056	Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway	OTP-AM	2/8/2024	Finally Passed	RESLV	132	
TRA	2072	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Motor Vehicles	OTP-AM	4/2/2024	Enacted	PL	634	
TRA	2098	An Act Regarding Multiple Special Designating Plates for Certain Disabled Veterans	LTW	1/30/2024	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	2116	An Act to Require Flame-retardant Seats on New School Buses	ONTP	2/21/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
TRA	2173	Resolve, to Rename the Interstate 295 Interchange in the Town of Freeport the Matthew MacMillan Bridge	OTP-AM	2/22/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	140	
TRA	2183	Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury	OTP	2/8/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	131	
TRA	2190	An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025	OTP-AM	3/4/2024	Enacted	P&S	19	
TRA	2229	An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025	OTP-AM	4/15/2024	Emergency Enacted	PL	645	

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 131ST LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 2024

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
TRA	2239	Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Mechanic Falls the Bill Dunlop Memorial Bridge	OTP-AM	3/19/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	161	
TRA	2281	An Act to Reconvene a Driver Education Working Group to Evaluate Hardships to Underserved Populations and Low-income Families	OTP		Emergency Enacted	PL	595	

## **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

### **LD 402 Resolve, to Rename Bridges in the Towns of Limerick, Hiram and Limington**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 176 directs the Department of Transportation to designate a bridge in the town of Limerick as the Sokokis Lake Veterans Memorial Bridge, a bridge in the town of Hiram as the Hiram Veterans Memorial Bridge, and a bridge in the town of Limington as the Limington Veterans Memorial Bridge.

### **LD 1640 An Act Directing the Department of Transportation to Adopt Rules Regarding Corrosion Mitigation Methods for Steel Bridges**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 657 directs the Department of Transportation to adopt routine technical rules governing corrosion mitigation methods for steel bridges wholly under the control of the State and specifies that the rules must include, but are not limited to, establishing processes for ensuring that corrosion mitigation activities are carried out in accordance with established federal corrosion mitigation standards and under the supervision of personnel who are industry-trained and industry-certified in corrosion mitigation methods on an appropriate substrate or surface; requiring plans to prevent environmental degradation that might result from corrosion mitigation activities; and requiring compliance with all applicable state and federal rules and regulations and corrosion mitigation standards.

### **LD 2049 An Act to Increase Safety for Child Welfare Services Workers**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 542 exempts unmarked motor vehicles used regularly for work protecting the welfare of children from having to display a special registration license plate.

### **LD 2056 Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 132 directs the Department of Transportation to designate the portion of Route 127 in the town of Arrowsic as the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway.

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### LD 2072 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Motor Vehicles

#### ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 634 amends various sections of statute regarding motor vehicles in Title 29-A of the Maine Revised Statutes in the following ways.

1. It amends the definition of “antique auto” to include an automobile that is more than 35 years old or is less than 35 years of age and more than 25 years of age and was registered in the State as an antique vehicle prior to January 2025.
2. It amends the definition of “antique motorcycle” to include a motorcycle that is more than 35 years old or is less than 35 years of age and more than 25 years of age and was registered in the State as an antique motorcycle prior to January 2025.
3. It eliminates the provision that allows a person during a nonplate issue year to reserve an unexpired registration plate number for more than six months.
4. It clarifies that specialty plate sponsors registering with the Secretary of State after the specialty plate moratorium must be affiliated with a state department.
5. It eliminates the authority of the Secretary of State to issue unassigned temporary registration permits to licensed vehicle auction businesses.
6. It clarifies that a set of disabled veteran plates are an option for a veteran who has lost both legs or the use of both legs when the veteran receives a registration fee and excise tax exemption.
7. It clarifies that the Secretary of State may issue a registration certificate and special designating plates for more than one vehicle owned by certain disabled veterans.
8. It allows for the issuance of titles for semitrailers no more than 25 years of age.
9. It requires titles issued to motor vehicles over 25 years of age to be warranty titles in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 651, subsection 3.
10. It allows a first lienholder participating in the electronic lien titling program to request that a paper certificate of title or salvage be printed and mailed to an alternate address.
11. It requires that all fines and fees related to dealer licensing be paid for a dealer license to be issued or retained.
12. It requires dealers to post their document preparation fees on all vehicles.
13. It allows a licensed towing business to be issued transporter plates and a license to transport a vehicle owned by or in the custody of that owner or business.

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14. It requires dealers to maintain a copy of any purchase and sale agreements for a minimum of five years.
15. It clarifies that specific dealer plates may be used only for that type of vehicle.
16. It clarifies the type of large four-wheel drive trucks that may be operated with an equipment dealer plate.
17. It eliminates the requirement that records of vehicles sold by vehicle auction businesses be submitted to the Secretary of State.
18. It requires that all fines and fees related to dealer and recycler licensing be paid for a recycler license to be issued or retained.
19. It prohibits a person who is not a recycler from operating a business that deals in the sale of catalytic converters that have been removed from motor vehicles.
20. It requires the Secretary of State to use the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's drug and alcohol clearinghouse when issuing, upgrading, renewing or transferring a commercial driver's license or learner's permit.
21. It allows the Secretary of State to accept a recently expired United States passport as proof of legal presence for United States citizens when issuing a driver's license.
22. It increases the length of time a motorcycle rider education instructor license is valid.
23. It clarifies that the owner of a driver education school must file with the Secretary of State a certificate showing that each vehicle used during driving instruction is covered by certain insurance policies.
24. It allows the Secretary of State to accept a recently expired United States passport as proof of legal presence for United States citizens when issuing a nondriver identification card.
25. It clarifies that a dealer may transport an uninspected vehicle to an automobile auction or another licensed vehicle dealer as long as it is safe to operate on a public way.
26. It expands the type of medical professionals that may provide a certificate to exempt a person from seatbelt requirements.
27. It eliminates the requirement for a school bus operator endorsement for drivers of a multifunction school activity bus and provides that the driver must be at least 21 years of age and have held a driver's license for at least two years.

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### **LD 2173 Resolve, to Rename the Interstate 295 Interchange in the Town of Freeport the Matthew MacMillan Bridge**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 140 corrects an erroneous designation and location of an interchange in the town of Freeport and renames the interchange as the Matthew MacMillan Bridge. The correction is retroactive to June 29, 2023, the effective date of Resolve 2023, chapter 1 which contained the erroneous designation and location.

Resolve 2023, chapter 140 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 14, 2024.

### **LD 2183 Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 131 corrects an erroneous designation and location of a bridge in the town of Canaan and renames the bridge as the Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury Bridge. The correction is retroactive to June 29, 2023, the effective date of Resolve 2023, chapter 2, which contained the erroneous designation and location.

Resolve 2023, chapter 131 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective February 29, 2024.

### **LD 2190 An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 19 makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2025 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

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### **LD 2229 An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 645 makes supplemental appropriations and allocations for the expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and other funds and changes certain provisions of the law necessary to the proper operations of State Government for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Public Law 2023, chapter 645 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 22, 2024.

### **LD 2239 Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Mechanic Falls the Bill Dunlop Memorial Bridge**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 161 directs the Department of Transportation to rename a bridge in the town of Mechanic Falls as the Bill Dunlop Memorial Bridge.

Resolve 2023, chapter 161 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 2, 2024.

### **LD 2281 An Act to Reconvene a Driver Education Working Group to Evaluate Hardships to Underserved Populations and Low-income Families**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 595 reconvenes a working group to study potential solutions regarding the cost of and access to driver education for underserved populations and low-income families. The working group is required to submit a report no later than February 3, 2025 that includes its findings and recommendations for presentation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters, which is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Public Law 2023, chapter 595 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 9, 2024.

