

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 26

H. P. 17

Office of the Clerk of the House

Filed December 29, 1976 under Joint Rule No. 6 by Mr. Jensen of Portland.
To be printed and delivered to the House of Representatives of the 108th
Legislature.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jensen of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Clarify the Laws Governing Vehicles Overtaking and Passing.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 1151 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 1151. Overtaking a vehicle on the left

The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle unless otherwise permitted by this Title.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 1151-A is enacted to read:

§ 1151-A. When overtaking on the right is permitted

The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

1. Left turn imminent. When the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn;
2. Two or more lines of vehicles in same direction. Upon a street or highway with unobstructed pavement not occupied by parked vehicles of sufficient width for 2 or more lines of moving vehicles in each direction;
3. Certain restricted streets. Upon a one-way street, or upon any roadway on which traffic is restricted to one direction of movement, where the roadway is free from obstructions and of sufficient width for 2 or more lines of moving vehicles.

The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle upon the right only under conditions permitting that movement in safety. In no event shall that movement be made by driving off the pavement or main-traveled portion of the roadway.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 1151-B is enacted to read:

§ 1151-B. Audible signal on passing

The driver of an overtaking motor vehicle not within a business or residence district shall give audible warning with his horn or other warning device before passing or attempting to pass a vehicle proceeding in the same direction.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the law of the road concerning overtaking and passing vehicles. It does not make any substantive change in existing law but does correct an error in the structure of the law concerning passing on the right and would bring that law into conformance with the Uniform Vehicle Code.