

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-101)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 178, L. D. 225, Bill, "AN ACT to Amend the Laws Relating to Examinations of Motor Vehicles by Police Officers and to Increase the Penalty for Avoiding a Police Roadblock."

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §2501-A, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 663, §187, is amended to read:

§2501-A. Refusing to stop for a law enforcement officer

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the term "signal" may include the use of a hand signal, siren or flashing emergency lights, and the term "roadblock"ⁿ ← → means a physical barrier, a vehicular or other obstruction placed upon a way at the direction of a law enforcement officer.

2. Failure to stop. It is unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to fail or refuse to stop that vehicle upon request or signal of any uniformed law enforcement officer. Failure to comply with this subsection is a Class E crime.

3. Eluding an officer. Whoever, after being requested or signaled to stop, attempts to elude ~~the~~ a law enforcement officer by driving a vehicle at a reckless rate of speed which results in a high-speed chase between the operator's vehicle and any law enforcement vehicle using a blue light or siren is guilty of a Class D crime.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

'Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §2501-A, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Passing a roadblock. It is unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to pass or attempt to pass a roadblock, clearly identifiable as a police roadblock, without authorization. subsection Failure to comply with this / is a Class C crime.'

Further amend the bill by renumbering sections 3 and 4 to be sections 4 and 5.

Statement of Fact

This amendment adds a definition of roadblock and more clearly defines the crime of avoiding a police roadblock. It also adds the requirement that a police officer be in uniform before a driver can be guilty of failure to stop for that officer.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary.
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

3/16/81

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