

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 225**

H. P. 178

House of Representatives, January 12, 1981

Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Joyce of Portland.

Cosponsor: Mr. J. Reeves of Newport.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

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**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.**

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

**Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 2501**, as amended by PL 1979, c. 663, § 186, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

**Whoever, while operating a vehicle in violation of this Title, fails or refuses, when requested by an officer authorized to make arrests, to give his correct name and address is guilty of a Class E crime.**

**Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 2501-A, sub-§ 4** is enacted to read:

**4. Eluding a roadblock. It is unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to elude or attempt to elude a roadblock that has been established. Failure to comply with this section is a Class C crime.**

**Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 2506, sub-§ 5, ¶ A**, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 464, § 5, is amended to read:

**A. Any farm truck subject to partial inspection shall bear the name of the town in which the excise tax is paid in 4-inch letters on the left door of the cab of the truck; and**

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 2506, sub-§ 6 is enacted to read:

**6. Motor vehicles operated on islands. Motor vehicles registered under section 242 which are to be operated exclusively on islands.**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

Section 1 provides a penalty for persons who are in violation of motor vehicle laws when those persons give a false name and address. Law enforcement is faced with this situation daily, particularly when the violations involve operating without a license or operating while under suspension.

Section 2 provides a penalty for anyone who elects to elude a police roadblock by either driving into the roadblock or by driving around it.

Section 3 exempts those vehicles that are restricted to island operation from motor vehicle inspection. Many of the islands do not have inspection stations and, due to the fact that island registered vehicles are not permitted on the mainland, it is impossible for these owners to legally obtain a certificate of inspection. Although exempt from inspection, these vehicles would still be required to be maintained in safe operating condition as per other safety requirements of Title 29.