MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 1953

H.P. 1405

House of Representatives, December 15, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 15, 1989. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and 1600 ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HUTCHINS of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senator WEBSTER of Franklin, Representative McCORMICK of Rockport and Representative LIBBY of Kennebunk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Strengthen Penalties for Operating under the Influence When a Minor Is a Passenger.



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

29 MRSA §1310 is enacted to read:

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§1310. Excessive blood-alcohol level when minor is passenger

Notwithstanding any other provision in this subchapter, when a minor is a passenger in a motor vehicle that a person with an excessive blood-alcohol level operates or attempts to operate, the court may impose a greater penalty on that person than otherwise provided in this subchapter up to twice the maximum penalty. This section does not authorize the court to suspend any portion of a penalty that may not be suspended under this subchapter.

16 STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill authorizes the court to double the maximum penalties provided in current law for a person with an excessive blood-alcohol level operating a motor vehicle when a minor is a passenger in the motor vehicle. It is also the intention of this bill to encourage the use of public service work when appropriate for an additional penalty or in conjunction with imprisonment or fines.