

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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TITLE 29

MOTOR VEHICLES

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.

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§ 1. Definitions

As used in this Title, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings:

1. Antique motor car. "Antique motor car" shall mean any motor vehicle over 25 years old which is maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades and other functions of public interest and which is not used primarily for the transportation of passengers or goods over any way.

1955, c. 351, § 1.

2. Curb. "Curb" shall mean the outer edge of a defined sidewalk or either edge of the wrought or usually traveled part of a way.

3. Farm tractor. "Farm tractor" shall mean any motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines and other implements of husbandry.

4. Motorcycle. Every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than 3 wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a tractor.

1961, c. 72.

5. Motor driven cycle. "Motor driven cycle" shall mean every motorcycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor which produces not to exceed 5 horsepower and every bicycle with motor attached.

6. Motor truck. "Motor truck" shall mean any motor vehicle designed and used for the conveyance of property.

1955, c. 51.

7. Motor vehicle. "Motor vehicle" shall mean any self-propelled vehicle not operated exclusively on tracks, including motorcycles.

8. Muffler. "Muffler" shall mean a device consisting of a series of chambers or baffle plates or other mechanical design for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine, and effective in reducing noise.

1959, c. 253, § 1.

9. Owner. "Owner" for the purposes of registration only shall mean any person, firm, corporation or association holding title to a motor vehicle or having exclusive right to the use thereof for a period greater than 30 days or the mortgagor or the vendee in a conditional sales contract, and shall mean any person, firm, corporation or association owning a motor vehicle, or having the right to use the same, under contract, lease or hiring; except this definition shall not apply when said vehicle is engaged exclusively for the use set forth in Title 35, section 1560, subsection 1, paragraph E, or Acts amendatory thereto. It shall not mean or include a person engaged in the business of renting Maine registered motor vehicles without drivers, as provided for in section 901. Nothing contained in this definition shall require an owner or a common or contract carrier by motor vehicle operating under permit or certificate of the Interstate Commerce Commission or the Public Utilities Commission to register a motor vehicle leased by such owner or carrier for the purpose of

augmenting such owner's or carrier's equipment, if such motor vehicle is properly registered by the owner or carrier in this or some other state.

1955, c. 370, § 1; 1961, c. 117.

10. Pneumatic tire. "Pneumatic tire" shall mean every tire in which confined air is designed to support the load.

11. Road tractor. "Road tractor" shall mean any motor vehicle designed and used for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry any load thereon either independently or any part of the weight of a vehicle or load so drawn.

12. Semi-trailer. "Semi-trailer" shall mean any vehicle without motive power designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so designed that some part of its weight and of its load rests upon or is carried by such motor vehicle, and shall include pole dollies, pole dickeys, so called, and wheels commonly used as a support for the ends of logs or other long articles.

13. Solid tires. "Solid tires" shall include tires of rubber or other material that do not depend on confined air for the support of the load.

14. Special mobile equipment. "Special mobile equipment" shall mean every self-propelled vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property and incidentally operated or moved over the highways, including road construction or maintenance machinery, ditch-digging apparatus, stone-crushers, air compressors, power shovels, cranes, graders, rollers, well-drillers and wood-sawing equipment used for hire. This enumeration shall be deemed partial and shall not operate to exclude other such vehicles which are within the general terms of this section.

1955, c. 240, § 1.

15. Stock race car. "Stock race car" shall mean a one-time factory produced vehicle equipped with roll bars or bracing welded or attached to the frame in a permanent manner and special safety belts, firewalls and having a certain amount of the body removed.

1959, c. 99, § 1.

16. Team. "Team" shall include all kinds of conveyances on ways for persons and for property, except those propelled or drawn by human power or used exclusively on tracks.

17. Tractor. "Tractor" shall include any motor truck designed or used for the sole purpose of hauling or partially carrying trailers or semi-trailers.

18. Trailer. "Trailer" shall mean any vehicle without motive power, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, not operated on tracks, and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.

19. Truck tractor. "Truck tractor" shall mean any motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and the load so drawn; trucks used as truck tractors shall be rated as truck tractors.

20. Vehicle. "Vehicle" shall include all kinds of conveyances on ways for persons and for property, except those propelled or drawn by human power or used exclusively on tracks.

21. Way. "Way" shall include all kinds of public ways.

The words in the context indicating operation or use of a vehicle refer to its operation or use upon any way or bridge in this State, including public parks or parkways.

R.S.1954, c. 22, § 1; 1955, c. 51; c. 240, § 1; c. 351, § 1; c. 370, § 1; 1959, c. 99, § 1; c. 253, § 1; 1961, c. 72; c. 117; c. 417, § 33.

§ 2. Nonresident, defined

The term "nonresident," as used in this Title, shall be defined as any person whose legal residence is in some state, district or country other than Maine.

R.S.1954, c. 22, § 68; 1961, c. 70, § 2.

§ 3. Highway use authorized unless specifically prohibited

Subject to this Title, vehicles of every kind or description may be operated on the ways of this State unless prohibited or restricted by special law or town ordinance duly authorized by legislative act prohibiting or restricting the use of motor vehicles in certain towns, or by the rules, orders and regulations promulgated by the State Highway Commission under authority of this Title.

R.S.1954, c. 22, § 145.

§ 4. Reciprocal agreements with New Hampshire

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Secretary of State is empowered to make agreements or arrangements with the duly authorized representatives of the state of New Hampshire providing that trucks, tractors or semi-trailers owned by residents of such bordering state and legally registered in such state may be operated in intrastate commerce in this State within a zone not to exceed 10 miles from the border of such state. Such agreements or arrangements shall provide that a resident of this State, when using the highways of said adjoining state, shall receive substantially equivalent benefits and privileges.

1957, c. 249.

§ 5. Plates to be manufactured at State Prison

The Secretary of State or the duly designated official in charge of motor vehicle registration shall purchase and cause to be installed at the State Prison the necessary equipment and materials for the production of all motor vehicle registration plates used in the State. No such plates shall be purchased for state use except such as cannot be produced at the prison.

The Warden of the State Prison shall have charge of operations at the State Prison relative to the manufacture of all plates made for the State. He may, with the consent of the Secretary of State, employ for limited periods of time a supervisor for the purpose of instructing inmates in the operation of making such plates.

R.S.1954, c. 22, § 38.