

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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October 13, 1965

Dorothy B. McGilvery, Dealer Clerk

Secretary of State

Jerome S. Matus, Assistant

Attorney General

Use of transporter plates on wrecker towing units.

FACTS:

The Public Laws of 1965, chapter 109 added a new subsection to 29 M.R.S.A. § 336, which subsection reads as follows:

"Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Title, anyone issued new car or used car dealer registration plates or transporter registration plates by said board shall have the right to operate his motor vehicle wrecker or service automobile in connection with his business on such dealer or transporter plate."

QUESTION:

If the holder of transporter plates is using a tow bar to transport vehicles may the transporter plates be used both on the wrecker and the vehicle being towed by the wrecker?

ANSWER:

Yes.

OPINION:

Prior to the effective date of P. L. 1965, chapter 109 a transporter plate could not be used on the towing vehicle. The transporter plate's proper use was limited to the towed vehicle. See question #1, its answer and the reason stated in the Attorney General's Opinion of September 5, 1963.

Dorothy B. McGilvery

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The language of the Public Laws of 1965, chapter 109 clearly authorizes the use of a transporter plate on a wrecker being used as a towing vehicle. It therefore follows that both the towing wrecker and the towed vehicle may use transporter plates if the holder of the plates is using a tow bar to transport the vehicle.

Jerome B. Matus
Assistant Attorney General

JSM/sll