## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF

NO. <u>5FY 84/95</u> DATE\_February 1, 1985

STATE POLICY REGARDING USE OF SAFETY BELTS BY STATE EMPLOYEES AND THEIR PASSENGERS

WHEREAS, national statistics demonstrate that one out of every five deaths occurring on the job are motor vehicle related; and

WHEREAS, lap safety belts have been proven to reduce the likelihood of fatal injury for adults by 40% and lap/shoulder safety belts reduce the chance of death by more than 60%; and

WHEREAS, the chances of avoiding moderate or critical injuries in a crash improve 31% if a lap belt is worn and by at least 57% where a lap/shoulder belt is worn; and

WHEREAS, state employees in serving the State are responsible individuals who pride themselves in maintaining the highest standards of personal concern for themselves and others; and

WHEREAS, the actions of employees of the State exemplify a standard of personal behavior for the public at large;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, Governor of the State of Maine, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby issue this Executive Order as a necessary step to insure the safety of state employees and to set an example for the people throughout the State to travel safely upon the public ways.

IT IS DECLARED that it is the policy of the State that all state employees and their passengers shall wear seat belts when they are traveling in state-owned vehicles or when traveling on official business for the state in privately-owned vehicles.

IT IS ORDERED that the Governor's Office of Employee Relations, with the cooperation of all state departments and agencies, immediately take all actions necessary to implement this policy by preparing and posting work rules applicable to all state employees.

Dated and effective at Augusta, Maine this lst day of February 1985.

JOSEPH E. BRENNAN