

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE - HUNDRED TH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 396

H. P. 282

House of Representatives, January 17, 1961

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hague of Gorham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Spot or Auxiliary Lights on Motor Vehicles and Lights on Snow Removal Equipment.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 44, amended. The first 4 sentences of section 44 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 332 of the public laws of 1955, are further amended to read as follows: 'All trucks, graders and other vehicles, while being used for the express purpose of plowing snow or sanding on public ways, unless the 6-inch diameter lights ~~hereinafter described~~ are not available in the markets of this State, shall be equipped with at least 2 auxiliary lights to be mounted on the highest practical point on the vehicle, one showing to the front and one to the rear of the vehicle. The light ~~or lights~~, showing to the front shall ~~be a blue or amber light emit an amber beam of light~~ and shall be at least 6 inches in diameter. The light, ~~or lights~~, showing to the rear shall ~~be a red light emit a red beam of light and shall be~~ at least 6 inches in diameter. These ~~a~~ lights shall be equipped with blinker attachments.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 144, amended. Section 144 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 2 of chapter 56 of the public laws of 1955, is further amended to read as follows:

'**Sec. 144. Spot, fog or auxiliary lights; signal lights for volunteer fire departments authorized.** There shall not be used on or in connection with any motor vehicle a spotlight, so called, or more than 2 fog or auxiliary lights, so called, the rays from which shine more than 2 feet above the road at a distance of 30 feet from the vehicle, except that such spotlight may be used for the purpose of reading signs, and as an auxiliary light in cases of necessity when

the other lights required by law fail to operate. The fog or auxiliary light shall emit a white or amber beam of light. ~~This section shall not apply to ambulances, police and fire department vehicles, vehicles operated by state, city and town fire inspectors, to motor vehicles operated by chiefs of police and by chiefs and assistant chiefs of fire departments, vehicles engaged in highway maintenance, wreckers and public utility emergency service vehicles.~~

There shall not be used on or in connection with any motor vehicle a red or blue light, the beam from which is visible to the front of said vehicle, except that emergency vehicles, so called, may display lights which emit a red or blue beam to the front thereof only under the following classifications:

I. Ambulances, fire department vehicles. Lights used on ambulances, fire department vehicles, vehicles operated by state, city and town fire inspectors, and by vehicles operated by chiefs and assistant chiefs of fire departments shall emit a red beam of light. When authorized by the municipal officers of a municipality, countersigned by the fire chief, a red blinker or flashing red signal light, not more than 5 inches in diameter, may be mounted as near as practicable above the registration plate on the front of a motor vehicle operated by a member of a volunteer fire department. Such light may be displayed but shall not be in operation except while such vehicle is in use for fire or other emergency service. No volunteer firemen shall operate a red blinker or flashing red signal light upon such motor vehicle, except while actually enroute to the scene of a fire or other emergency requiring his services and unless he shall be an active member of such department. Nothing herein shall limit the use of lights showing a red beam of light to the front of school buses provided said lights are of a type approved by the Secretary of State as stated in section 48.

II. Police department vehicles. Lights used on police department vehicles and on motor vehicles operated by chiefs of police shall emit a blue beam of light.

III. Emergency service vehicles. Lights used on vehicles engaged in highway maintenance, wreckers and public utility emergency service vehicles shall emit an amber beam of light.

The use of these auxiliary lights shall not relieve the owner or operator of an emergency vehicle from conforming to section 43.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 22, § 144-A, repealed. Section 144-A of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 298 of the public laws of 1959, is repealed.