

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
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ONE-HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1702

H. P. 1237

House of Representatives, November 29, 1961

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Transportation and ordered printed under Joint Rule 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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AN ACT Relating to Gross Weight and Width of Trucks Hauling  
Construction Materials.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 109, amended.** The 2nd sentence of the first paragraph of section 109 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as last repealed and replaced by section 3 of chapter 346 of the public laws of 1961, is amended to read as follows:

'No vehicle having 2 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 32,000 pounds, **except a vehicle with 11.00 tires hauling earth, sand, gravel, crushed rock, bituminous construction materials or concrete shall be permitted a gross weight of 36,000 pounds provided it is not in excess of the gross weight recommended by the manufacturer as safe;** no vehicle having 3 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 51,800 pounds, no vehicle having 4 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 62,050 pounds, and no vehicle having 5 or more axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 70,550 pounds.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 109, amended.** The 2nd paragraph of section 109 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as last repealed and replaced by section 3 of chapter 346 and amended by chapter 353, both of the public laws of 1961, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Two or more axles less than 4 feet apart shall be considered as one axle and no group of axles shall carry a load in pounds in excess of the value given in

the following table corresponding to the distance in feet between the extreme axles of the group, measured longitudinally to the nearest foot:

| Distance in feet<br>between the extremes<br>of any group of axles | Maximum load in pounds carried on any Group of Axles |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|   | 3 axle<br>vehicles                                   | 4 axle vehicles<br>with adequate<br>brakes on the<br>wheels of<br>all axles | 5 or more axle<br>vehicles with<br>adequate brakes<br>on the wheels<br>of all axles |
| 4 to 7 .....  | 32,000   |   |   |
| 8 .....   | 32,610   |   |   |
| 9 .....   | 33,580   |   |   |
| 10 .....  | 34,550   |   |   |
| 11 .....  | 35,510   |   |   |
| 12 .....  | 36,470   |   |   |
| 13 .....  | 37,420   |   |   |
| 14 .....  | 38,360   | 45,900  |   |
| 15 .....  | 39,300   | 46,750  |   |
| 16 .....  | 40,230   | 47,600  |   |
| 17 .....  | 41,160   | 48,450  |   |
| 18 .....  | 42,080   | 49,300  | 51,100  |
| 19 .....  | 42,990   | 50,150  | 52,050  |
| 20 .....  | 43,900   | 51,000  | 53,000  |
| 21 .....  | 44,800   | 51,850  | 53,950  |
| 22 .....  | 45,700   | 52,700  | 54,900  |
| 23 .....  | 46,590   | 53,550  | 55,850  |
| 24 .....  | 47,470   | 54,400  | 56,800  |
| 25 .....  | 48,350   | 55,250  | 57,750  |
| 26 .....  | 49,220   | 56,100  | 58,700  |
| 27 .....  | 50,090   | 56,950  | 59,650  |
| 28 .....  | 50,950   | 57,800  | 60,600  |
| 29 .....  | 51,800   | 58,650  | 61,550  |
| 30 .....  |  | 59,500  | 62,500  |
| 31 .....  |  | 60,350  | 63,450  |
| 32 .....  |  | 61,200  | 64,400  |
| 33 .....  |  | 62,050  | 65,350  |
| 34 .....  |  |   | 66,300  |
| 35 .....  |  |   | 67,250  |
| 36 .....  |  |   | 68,200  |
| 37 .....  |  |   | 69,150  |
| 38 .....  |  |   | 70,100  |
| 39 .....  |  |   | 70,550  |

provided, that no vehicle other than trucks hauling earth, sand, gravel, crushed rock, bituminous construction materials or concrete shall have a gross weight imparted to any road surface of more than 22,000 pounds on any one axle, and no vehicle having 2 or more axles less than 8 feet apart shall be operated, or caused to be operated, with more than 18,000 pounds imparted to the road surface from either axle or 32,000 pounds from both axles; provided further that no vehicle shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the load imparted

to the road surface is greater than 600 pounds per inch width tire, manufacturer's rating; except that 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles hauling construction materials may be operated with a gross weight of 48,000 pounds with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 16 feet; and except further that 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles and not less than 10 11.00 tires hauling earth, sand, gravel, crushed rock, bituminous construction materials or concrete and with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 16 feet, may be operated with a gross weight not in excess of that recommended by the manufacturer as safe, provided that such gross weight shall not exceed 55,000 pounds; except further that 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles hauling forest products may be operated for a gross weight of 48,000 pounds with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 18 feet, and except further that 3-axle trucks with 2 rear axles driven and with brakes on wheels of all axles, hauling forest products may be operated upon the payment of an additional license fee of \$75 during the months of December, January and February at 15% in excess of the maximum gross weight permitted and that tractor-trailer combinations hauling forest products may be operated upon the payment of an additional license fee of \$75 during the months of December, January and February at 15% in excess of the maximum gross and axle weights permitted, not, however, permitting, validating or in any way applying to the use of the Interstate System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 by vehicles with weights carried on any one axle, tandem axle weights or overall gross weight or with width in excess of the applicable maximum weights or maximum widths permitted by the provisions of section 108 (j) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 and except that in special cases, special permits for the transportation of individual shipments in loads of greater gross weights may be granted by the State Highway Commission or such appropriate commission or officials as is duly authorized elsewhere in this chapter. All trucks with 4 or more axles shall have adequate brakes on the wheels of all axles.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 22, § 94, amended. The first sentence of section 94 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'No motor vehicle or trailer which, with or without load, is wider than 96 inches over all shall be operated upon any way or bridge; except that motor vehicles hauling earth, sand, gravel, crushed rock, bituminous construction materials or concrete may be operated on any way or bridge if its overall width does not exceed 100 inches; except further that motor vehicles or trailers hauling firewood, pulpwood, logs or bolts may be operated on any way or bridge if the width of the load does not exceed 102 inches; provided, however, that a. A strip 3 inches thick shall extend along the sides of the platform securely fastened to the platform of the vehicle or trailer in order that the load shall pitch to the center of said vehicle or trailer; and provided further, that each. Each vehicle or trailer shall carry a solid-boarded tailboard or 5 stakes evenly spaced of sufficient strength to maintain the weight of the load, and such load at no place along its length shall be higher than the tailboard or stakes.'

Sec. 4. Limitation. Nothing in this act shall permit, validate or in any way apply to the use of the Interstate System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway

Act of 1956 by vehicles with weights carried on any one axle, tandem axle weights or overall gross weights or maximum widths in excess of the applicable maximum weights or maximum widths permitted by the provisions of section 108 (j) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956.