

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1253

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H. P. 866

House of Representatives, February 12, 1963

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

Presented by Mr. Gifford of Manchester.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-THREE

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AN ACT Relating to Weight of Commercial Vehicles.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 36, amended.** The first paragraph of section 36 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as last amended by section 2 of chapter 346 of the public laws of 1961, is further amended to read as follows:

'No person shall operate, or cause to be operated, any truck, tractor, trailer or combination of truck tractor and semi-trailer, with a gross weight that is more than 10% above that specified in the registration certificate for such vehicle for trucks of gross weight of not over 15,000 pounds and 5% for trucks of gross weight of over 15,000 pounds; provided, however, that no motor vehicle of either a single unit or combined unit shall be operated on the highway with a gross weight that exceeds ~~70,550~~ 73,280 pounds.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 109, repealed and replaced.** Section 109 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as last repealed and replaced by section 42 of chapter 417 of the public laws of 1961, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'**Sec. 109. Weight of commercial vehicles limited.** No motor truck, trailer, tractor, combination of truck tractor and semi-trailer, or other commercial vehicle shall be operated, or caused to be operated, on or over any way or bridge when the gross weight, actual weight of vehicle and load, exceeds 73,280 pounds. No vehicle having 2 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 32,000 pounds, no vehicle having 3 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 60,750 pounds and no vehicle having 4 or more axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 72,000 pounds, and no vehicle having

5 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 73,280 pounds. The operation of the vehicle shall be prima facie evidence that said operation was caused by the person, firm or corporation holding the permit or certificate for said vehicle from the Public Utilities Commission.

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 between the extremes of any group of axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of axles		
	3 axle vehicles	4 axle vehicles	5 axle vehicles
4 to 7	32,000		
8	32,610		
9	33,580		
10	34,550		
11	35,510		
12	36,470	48,000	
13	37,420	48,667	56,000
14	38,360	49,334	56,625
15	39,300	50,000	57,250
16	40,230	50,667	57,875
17	41,160	51,334	58,500
18	42,080	52,001	59,125
19	42,990	52,668	59,750
20	43,900	53,333	60,375
21	44,800	54,000	61,000
22	45,700	55,800	61,625
23	46,590	57,200	62,250
24	47,470	58,700	62,875
25	48,350	59,650	63,500
26	49,220	60,600	64,125
27	50,090	61,550	64,750
28	50,950	62,500	65,375
29	51,800	63,450	66,000
30		64,400	66,833
31		65,350	67,666
32		66,400	68,500
33			69,125
34			69,750
35			70,375
36			71,000
37			71,625
38			72,250
39			72,875
40			73,280

provided, that no vehicle 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 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 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles hauling construction materials may be operated for a gross weight of 48,000 pounds with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 16 feet 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, § 19, amended. The first paragraph of section 19 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 10 of chapter 363 of the public laws of 1959 and amended by section 1 of chapter 346 of the public laws of 1961, is further amended by adding at the end, the following:

'From 70,550 pounds gross weight to 73,280 pounds gross weight                      \$600.'