

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1583

H. P. 1103

House of Representatives, June 5, 1963

Reported by Mr. Turner from Committee on Highways. Printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Weight of Commercial Vehicles.

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

Sec. 1. 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 The first paragraph of section 19 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 10 of chapter 363 of the public laws of 1959 and amended by section 1 of chapter 346 of the public laws of 1961, is further amended by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 70,551 pounds gross weight to 73,280 pounds gross weight \$600.'

Sec. 2. 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. 3. R. S., c. 22, § 109, repealed and replaced. Section 109 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as last repealed and replaced by section 42 of chapter 417 of the public laws of 1961, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof: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 51,800 pounds and 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 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		
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

	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
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
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. 4. R. S., c. 22, § 111, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 111 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

‘Trial justice and municipal courts shall, instead of sentencing a respondent to pay costs, impose a fine upon each conviction \$10 larger than ~~hereinafter~~ provided in this section. Five dollars of any such fine collected shall be retained by the county and the balance paid by the county to the State Highway Commission. The following fines and costs shall otherwise be imposed:

\$20 and costs of court when the gross weight is in excess of 73,280 by less than 2,000 pounds and in all other cases \$20 and costs of court when the gross weight is in excess of the limits prescribed in section 109, provided such excess is intentional and is 1,000 pounds or over but less than 2,000 pounds, and the above provision as to intent shall apply only to such excess as is less than 2,000 pounds;

\$40 and costs of court when such excess is 2,000 pounds or over but less than 3,000 pounds;

\$80 and costs of court when such excess is 3,000 pounds or over but less than 4,000 pounds;

\$150 and costs of court when such excess is 4,000 pounds or over but less than 5,000 pounds;

\$200 and costs of court when such excess is 5,000 pounds or over but less than 6,000 pounds;

\$250 and costs of court when such excess is 6,000 pounds or over but less than 8,000 pounds;

\$300 and costs of court when such excess is 8,000 pounds or over but less than 10,000 pounds;

Not less than \$350, and costs of court and not more than \$500 and costs of court when such excess is 10,000 pounds or over.’