

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1448**

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Proposed by Senator Cahill of Somerset and printed Pursuant to Senate Rule No. 11A.

EDWIN H. PERT, Secretary

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-FIVE

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**Senate Amendment "A" to H. P. 211, L. D. 279, Bill, "An Act Relating to Permits by Highway Commission for Trucks in Construction Areas."**

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Amend said Bill by striking out all of the Title and inserting in place thereof the following new Title: 'An Act Relating to Weight of Vehicles on State Ways and Bridges.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

**"Sec. 1. R. S., T. 29, § 1652, amended.** Section 1652 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

**§ 1652. Weight of commercial vehicles limited**

No motor truck, trailer, tractor, combination of truck tractor and semitrailer, 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
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 with a maximum of 22,000 pounds imparted to the road surface from the wheels of any axle, 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 \$25 per calendar month, or fraction thereof for any of the months of December, January or 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 fee of \$25 per calendar month, or fraction thereof, for any of the months of December, January or 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 sections 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 with a maximum of 22,000 pounds imparted to the road surface from the wheels of any axle 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 Title. All trucks or truck trailer combinations with 4 or more axles shall have adequate brakes on the wheels of all axles.

Nothing contained in this section shall permit, validate or in any way apply to the use of vehicles on any way or bridge of the Interstate System in violation of the provisions of section 108(j) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 29, § 1652-A, additional. Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 1652-A to read as follows:

§ 1652-A. Ways and bridges

This section shall apply to vehicles operated on or over any way or bridge, except the Interstate System, as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956.

No motor truck, trailer, tractor, combination of truck tractor and semitrailer 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 66,000 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 .....	36,000		
8 .....	36,610		
9 .....	37,580		
10 .....	38,550		
11 .....	39,510		
12 .....	40,470		
13 .....	41,420		
14 .....	42,360	49,900	
15 .....	43,300	50,750	
16 .....	44,230	51,600	
17 .....	45,160	52,450	
18 .....	46,080	53,300	55,100
19 .....	46,990	54,150	56,050
20 .....	47,900	55,000	57,000
21 .....	48,800	55,850	57,950
22 .....	49,700	56,500	58,900
23 .....	50,590	57,500	59,850
24 .....	51,800	58,000	60,800
25 .....		58,500	61,750
26 .....		59,500	62,700
27 .....		60,000	63,650
28 .....		60,500	64,600
29 .....		61,500	65,500
30 .....		62,000	66,500
31 .....		62,500	67,500
32 .....		63,500	68,000
33 .....		64,000	68,500
34 .....		64,500	69,000
35 .....		65,500	70,000
36 .....		66,000	70,500
37 .....			71,000
38 .....			72,000
39 .....			72,500
40 .....			73,280

provided that no vehicle shall be operated, or caused to be operated, on any way or bridge when the gross weight imparted to the road surface by the wheels of any single axle of a vehicle exceeds 22,000 pounds or the wheels of 2 consecutive

axles in tandem articulated from a common attachment to the vehicle, and spaced not less than 48 inches nor more than 84 inches apart, shall not exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axles shall exceed 22,000 pounds; provided further the weight imparted to the road surface by the wheels of 2 consecutive axles individually attached to the vehicle and spaced not less than 48 inches nor more than 84 inches apart, shall not exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle shall exceed 22,000 pounds; provided further the weight imparted to the road surface by the wheels of 3 consecutive axles articulated from a common attachment or individually attached to the vehicle, and spaced not less than 96 inches between extreme axles shall not exceed 46,000 pounds and of the 3 axles no single axle shall exceed 22,000 pounds and no 2 axles shall exceed 36,000 pounds; 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 of tire manufacturer's rating. All trucks or truck trailer combinations shall have adequate brakes on the wheels of all axles.' "