

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 62

H. P. 60

House of Representatives, January 8, 1969

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Snow of Caribou.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to the Authority to Regulate Motor Vehicle Speeds.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 29, § 1251, amended. The first paragraph of section 1251 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Except as provided in section 1255 and notwithstanding section 1252, subsection 2, the State Highway Commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ shall have authority to restrict the speed of all motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where in the opinion of the commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ a rate of speed less than that now authorized by law will minimize the danger of accident and in each such place shall fix the rate of speed in accordance with ~~their~~ its own judgment. The State Highway Commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ shall have authority to increase the speeds of all motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where, in ~~their~~ its opinion, higher speeds are warranted to promote the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, provided that such increased speed shall not exceed 60 miles per hour for vehicles, except on the interstate system such increased speed shall not exceed 70 miles per hour for vehicles. This section shall not apply to that portion of the interstate system which is part of the Maine Turnpike.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 29, § 1252, sub-§ 2, ¶ C, amended. Paragraph C of subsection 2 of section 1252 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

C. Speed in excess of 25 miles an hour in a business or residential district, or built-up portion, as defined in subsection 3, shall be unlawful unless a different speed is fixed by the municipal officers with the approval of the State Highway Commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ and such speed duly posted;

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 29, § 1253, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 1253 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Whenever the State Highway Commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly,~~ **determine** ~~determines~~ on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that slow speeds on any part of a highway consistently impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, the commission ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ may determine and declare a minimum speed limit below which no person shall drive a vehicle, except when necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 29, § 1256, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 1256 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Municipal officers in their respective jurisdictions are authorized in their discretion, but subject to the approval of the State Highway Commission, ~~the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly~~ to increase the speed which shall be lawful upon through ways at the entrances to which vehicles are required to stop before entering or crossing such through ways. Municipal officers shall place and maintain upon all through ways upon which the permissible speed is increased adequate signs giving notice of such regulations.