

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1793

S. P. 613

In Senate, May 28, 1971

Reported by Majority from Committee on Transportation and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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AN ACT Relating to Test Operations for Double Bottom Trucks.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 29, § 1, sub-§ 1-F-1, additional. Section 1 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 1-F-1 to read as follows:

1-F-1. Converter dolly. "Converter dolly" shall mean a dolly or other similar coupling device used to temporarily convert a semitrailer into a full trailer, but such converter dolly or device shall not be considered a vehicle for tax or other purposes.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 29, § 1, sub-§ 12, amended. Subsection 12 of section 1 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

A semitrailer temporarily converted to a trailer by use of a converter dolly shall be considered a semitrailer for registration purposes.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 29, § 244, amended. The 5th paragraph from the end of section 244 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows.

Only one trailer and one semitrailer, or one semitrailer and one converted semitrailer, shall be drawn by a motor vehicle; provided that driveaway, tow-away operations, as defined by the Public Utilities Commission, may include a combination of saddle-mount vehicles not to exceed 3 units in contact with surface of the highway.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 29, § 244, amended. The 4th paragraph from the end of section 244 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 54 of

the public laws of 1967, is further amended to read as follows:

No motor vehicle, or combination of motor vehicle and trailer or ~~semitrailer~~ **tractor-semitrailer**, except fire department vehicles and disabled motor vehicles being towed to a repair facility, shall exceed in length 55 feet overall including all structural parts thereof, permanent or temporary, and any load carried thereon or therein. **The State Highway Commission shall have authority to allow test operations for a 2-year period within the State of Maine for vehicles which shall not exceed 65 feet overall length. Said vehicle shall exceed 55 feet and consist of combinations of tractor-semitrailer and full trailer, tractor and 2 semitrailers, one of which is converted to a full trailer, or a combination of saddle-mount vehicles of 3 units in contact with surface of highway, or other combinations. The said vehicles shall be limited in use to 4-lane, divided, controlled access highways, except that limited travel to and from trucking terminals may be permitted subject to approval of local municipal officers, and only in communities where exits from said highway exist.**

Sec. 5. **Effective date.** This Act shall become effective January 1, 1972.