

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 265

S. P. 94

In Senate, January 22, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Cyr of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Change Weight Provisions for Commercial Vehicles.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA, § 246, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 796, §§ 3 and 4, is further amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following:

A registration fee of \$15 shall be paid for each 1,000 pounds or portion thereof of gross weight a vehicle is registered for in excess of 73,280 pounds.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA, § 1652, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, first sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 622, § 92, is amended to read:

No vehicle or combination of vehicles 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~~ 80,000 pounds.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA, § 1652, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 402, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

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; no vehicle having 4 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 66,300 pounds and no vehicle having 5 or more axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 80,000 pounds; except that vehicles may be operated, or caused to be operated, on the Interstate Highway System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 with gross weights in conformity with the

maximum gross weight limits established for said system by the Federal Aid Highway Amendments Act of 1974, provided that such weights do not exceed 80,000 pounds.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA, § 1652, sub-§ 1, ¶ B, 3rd line from the end, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 402, § 1, is amended to read:

40 ~~73,280~~ 80,000

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA, § 1652, sub-§ 1, ¶ C, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 402, § 1, is amended to read:

C. 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 36,000 pounds from both axles, specifically excepting the Interstate Highway System as defined in the Federal Highway Act of 1956, and vehicles operating on said Interstate Highway System shall not exceed ~~32,000~~ 34,000 pounds imparted from both axles.

Sec. 6. 29 MRSA, § 1654, 5th ¶ from the end, as repealed and replaced by PL 1967, c. 364, is amended to read:

In addition to the penalties enumerated in this section, there shall be, for vehicles using the Interstate System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, a fine of \$20 and cost of court when the gross weight is in excess of ~~73,280~~ 80,000 pounds ~~but~~ by less than 2,000 pounds.

Sec. 7. 29 MRSA, § 1655, last sentence, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Nothing contained in the first sentence shall permit, validate or in any way apply 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 weights in excess of the applicable maximum weights permitted by the Federal Aid Highway Amendments Act of 1974.

Sec. 8. 29 MRSA, § 1656, first ¶, is amended to read:

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 that no motor vehicle of either a single unit or combined unit shall be operated on the highway with a gross weight that exceeds ~~73,280~~ 80,000 pounds.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to revise state statutes to increase allowable weights on the Interstate Highway System to conform with the new federal law and to allow a maximum of 80,000 pounds on other highways.