

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1087**

H. P. 900

House of Representatives, March 18, 1975

On motion of Mr. Fraser of Mexico, referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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### **AN ACT Concerning the Required Height of Motorcycle Handlebars.**

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

29 MRSA § 999, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 65, is amended to read:

No person shall operate on the highway any motorcycle or motor driven cycle equipped with handlebars ~~that are more than 15 inches in height above the uppermost portion of the seat when depressed by the weight of the operator~~ whose handgrips are higher than the shoulder level of the driver of the motorcycle.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The current statute makes it illegal to drive a motorcycle with handlebars which are more than 15 inches in height above the uppermost portion of the motorcycle seat. Current technical literature indicates that as long as the handgrips of the handlebars of a motorcycle are located below the shoulder level of the motorcycle's driver, the motorcycle is safe to drive. The present statute makes motorcycle customizing unnecessarily difficult and is not required for safety. This Act will change the height requirement so as to forbid only that height which is unsafe.