

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)

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2139

H. P. 1954

House of Representatives, January 29, 1976

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Laffin of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT Relating to Emergency Lights for Vehicles.

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

29 MRSA § 1368, sub-§ 1, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 510, § 37, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

1. Ambulances; fire department vehicles. Lights used on ambulances, fire department vehicles, vehicles operated by city and town fire inspectors, forestry department vehicles used for forest fire control purposes and by vehicles operated by chiefs and chief officers, such as assistant chiefs, deputy chiefs and district chiefs of fire departments shall emit a red beam of light. When authorized by the municipal officers of a municipality and countersigned by the fire chief, a red blinker or flashing red signal light not more than 5 inches in diameter may be mounted as near as practicable above the registration plate on the front of a motor vehicle, or mounted on the dashboard so that the light will be shielded from the driver so as not to interfere with his vision, while operated by a member of a municipal or volunteer fire department. Such light may be displayed but shall not be in operation except while such vehicle is in use for fire or other emergency service. No volunteer or municipal firefighter shall operate a red blinker or flashing red signal light upon such motor vehicle, except while actually enroute to the scene of a fire or other emergency requiring his services and unless he shall be an active member of such department. Nothing herein shall limit the use of lights showing a red beam of light to the front or rear of school buses, provided those lights are of a type approved by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services as stated in section 2012.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purposes of this bill are to clarify the meaning of officers of fire departments; to permit the location of an emergency light on the front of a vehicle when authorized by appropriate officials; and to permit the operation of a vehicle with an emergency light by a member of a municipal fire department.