

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 274

S. P. 115

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

In Senate, February 9, 1977

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Hichens of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Require Periodic Eye Testing as a Condition
for Holding a Driver's License.**

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

29 MRSA § 581, as amended by PL 1965, c. 369, § 3-A, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

Every licensed driver shall be required to take and pass an eye test for every license renewal, except that this requirement shall be waived if the driver successfully passed an eye test at his most recent license renewal or if the driver presents evidence of an eye examination by an optometrist or ophthalmologist which certifies that the vision of the driver is satisfactory for a license renewal within one year of the time of license renewal.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require periodic eye testing of licensed drivers. Presently, there is no requirement concerning eye tests, except that a test is required at the time of application. Therefore, a person only needs to pass one eye test for a driving license for as long as the person drives. Since good eyesight is essential to safe driving, this bill will help protect human life on Maine highways. This bill requires that a person pass an eye test at the time of every alternate license renewal. Since eye tests are presently required for applicants for licenses, and for all people over 65 years of age, this bill will not create a financial burden for the State Department.