

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1422

H. P. 1181

House of Representatives, March 31, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Hutchings of Lincolnville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT Relating to Requirements for Operation of a Motor Vehicle upon
Attaining Age 75.**

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 545, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

Any person who has reached his 75th birthday and who has not taken an examination to qualify him to operate a motor vehicle within the past year shall be required to pass a driver's examination, or in lieu thereof he shall submit to and pass a physical examination according to criteria set out by the Secretary of State to be conducted by a licensed physician before a license may be issued to him; except that any person who applies for and receives a license to operate a motor vehicle effective on his 74th birthday shall not be required to take such examination until and unless he applies for renewal thereof to be effective on his 76th birthday. Any person who secures a motor vehicle operator's license at either age 75 or 76, as detailed, must pass a driver's examination at such times thereafter as he shall apply for renewal thereof, or in lieu thereof he shall submit to and pass a physical examination according to criteria set out by the Secretary of State to be conducted by a licensed physician.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 545, as amended by PL 1969, c. 137, is amended by adding at the end, 2 new paragraphs to read:

For the purposes of this section a person shall be deemed to have passed a physical examination if the physician conducting the examination certifies that, in his opinion, the person is physically capable of operating a motor

vehicle in a safe and proper manner, according to the criteria set out by the Secretary of State pursuant to this section.

Nothing in this section shall prevent a person who has failed to pass a physical examination from applying for and taking a driver's examination.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit a person 75 years of age and over to submit to a physical examination in lieu of taking a driver's examination in order to qualify to operate a motor vehicle. If the applicant chooses this alternative, the examination would be conducted whenever a person applies for a license renewal.