

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1782

H. P. 1675

House of Representatives, January 9, 1980

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk of the House

Presented by Mr. Garsoe of Cumberland.

Cosponsor: Mrs. Beaulieu of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

AN ACT Relating to the Maximum Seating Capacity of School Buses Transporting a Combination of Students Attending Grades Kindergarten through 12.

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

29 MRSA § 2014, sub-§ 1, ¶ B, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 532, § 2, is amended to read:

B. The maximum seating capacity for students attending grades 9 through 12 ~~or any combination of students attending grades kindergarten through 12~~ shall be 85% of the manufacturer's specified seating capacity. **The maximum seating capacity for any combination of students attending grades kindergarten through 12 shall be 95% of the manufacturer's specified seating capacity.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to change the school bus seating capacity limitation as it relates to buses transporting some secondary students. Presently the appearance of one secondary student reduces the seating capacity to 85%. This bill would raise that figure to 95%. Some school units, for reasons of geography and population, find it necessary to transport elementary and secondary students on the same bus. Enactment of this bill would further make it possible to conserve fuel and make more efficient use of the overall capacity of a unit's school bus fleet.