

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 24

S. P. 28

In Senate, December 4, 1980

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Senator Emerson of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Permit 10% Overweight Tolerance for Certain Material Transported on the Highways.**

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

**29 MRSA § 1655, first sentence**, as amended by PL 1979, c. 226, is further amended to read:

The operation on the highways of any vehicle loaded entirely with firewood, sawed lumber, dimension lumber, pulpwood, wood chips, logs, soils, unconsolidated rock materials, **any other unconsolidated materials the weight of which cannot reasonably be predetermined at the time of loading**, bolts, farm produce, road salt, manufacturer's concrete products, building materials which absorb moisture during delivery originating and terminating within the State, or dump trucks, tractor dump trucks or transit-mix concrete trucks carrying highway construction materials; or any vehicle loaded with a majority of products requiring refrigeration, whether by ice or mechanical equipment, and on such vehicles when inspected by the Maine State Police, the number of the seal shall be recorded and the number of the new seal shall be recorded by the Maine State Police, the operation on the highways of any vehicle loaded with raw ore from mine or quarry to place of processing shall not be deemed to be in violation if the gross weight of such vehicle does not exceed 110% of the maximum gross weight for which such vehicle is then registered, nor 110% of the maximum gross weight permitted for such vehicle by section 1652, and provided that the maximum

axle loads for these vehicles do not exceed 24,200 pounds for a single axle unit, 46,000 pounds for a tandem axle unit and 54,000 pounds for a tri-axle unit, except that 64,000 pounds shall be permitted on the tri-axle unit of a 4-axle motor vehicle hauling forest products until November 1, 1982.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to amend the motor vehicle weight tolerance law in order to take a more realistic approach to the weight regulation of materials whose weight cannot reasonably be predetermined at the time of loading. A small overweight allowance is necessary to avoid hardship in moving any unconsolidated substances, such as lime, whose weight cannot easily be predetermined at the time of loading.