

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 154

H. P. 122

House of Representatives, January 7, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Walker of Skowhegan.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Increase the Minimum Age for Motor Vehicle Operators to 16.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 107, last sentence, as amended by PL 1971, c. 360, § 11, is further amended to read:

The Secretary of State shall not grant the application of any minor under the age of ~~15~~ 16 years for registration of a vehicle.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 532, first sentence, is amended to read:

Any person who is at least ~~15~~ 16 years of age and has completed a course in driver education as provided in section 583 may apply to the Secretary of State for an instruction permit.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 538, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 538. Age limit

No license shall be issued to any person under 16 years of age.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 581-A, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 481, § 16, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 581-A. Proof of age

Every person between the ages of 16 and 18 years shall supply to the department

satisfactory proof of his date of birth before the department may accept his application for an examination prior to the issuance of a permit or original license.

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA § 583, last ¶, is amended to read:

Any person between the ages of ~~15~~ 16 and 17, who satisfies the Secretary of State that no readily available means of transportation exists to and from a secondary school or academy which he is attending, may be issued, upon passing the regular driver's examination as provided in section 581, a special permit authorizing such person to drive to and from such school or academy.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill raises, to 16, the age at which a person can register a car or be issued a learner's permit or driver's license. Among other things, the bill may accomplish energy savings by removing a category of drivers who may tend to use a disproportionate amount of fuel.