

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 737

H. P. 647

House of Representatives, February 9, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Fitzgerald of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Regulate Passengers Standing in Motor Trucks.

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

29 MRSA § 961 is enacted to read:

§ 961. **Motor trucks; passengers**

1. **Definition.** The term motor truck includes any motor vehicle equipped or used for the transportation of goods, wares and merchandise for hire or for a business purpose including those commonly known as auto trucks or light delivery cars.

2. **Restrictions.** No driver of a motor truck may:

A. Permit the motor truck to be operated for a distance in excess of 5 miles if the number of persons standing in the motor truck exceeds 1/3 of the total number of persons in the motor truck. "In excess of 5 miles" means 5 miles from the starting point of the motor truck without regard to intermediate stops;

B. Permit any person to ride within the closed body of the motor truck unless necessary for the operation or security of the motor truck; or

C. Permit any person to ride within the motor truck unless there are means for exiting which are in suitable condition for ready operation and unless there is suitable ventilation.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides for the safety of passengers and drivers of motor trucks. Current law allows passengers to stand in the front of the vehicle with the driver. This bill would not allow anyone to stand except when necessary for the security or operation of the vehicle or the cargo.