

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 931

H. P. 786

House of Representatives, February 19, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Erwin of Rumford.

Cosponsors: Representative Racine of Biddeford, Representative McKean of Limestone, and Representative Strout of Corinth.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Require Trucks Carrying Explosive Material to Come to a Complete Stop Before Crossing Railroad Tracks.

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

29 MRSA § 998-A is enacted to read:

§ 998-A. Trucks transporting explosives

The operator of any motor truck, trailer or semitrailer which is transporting an explosive substance or hazardous liquids or gases shall come to a full stop before crossing any railroad track. The stop is to be made at a point not more than 50 feet nor less than 10 feet from the nearest rail. The operator shall take such steps as are necessary to ascertain beyond a reasonable doubt that no train, engine or conveyance is approaching the crossing on that track before he may proceed to drive the vehicle onto or across the track. The operator shall not proceed to the opposite side of the crossing until he believes there is ample room for the complete unit to clear the crossing.

Any such vehicle carrying such a substance shall display a sign which is clearly visible from a distance of no less than 100 feet behind the vehicle which states: "This vehicle stops at all railroad crossings."

The operator of a motor truck, trailer or semitrailer failing to so stop or to yield the right of way to any train, engine or conveyance on the track is guilty of a Class B crime.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require trucks carrying explosive materials or hazardous liquids or gases to stop before crossing any railroad tracks.