

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document No. 1470

H.P. 1112 House of Representatives, April 14, 1983

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Smith of Island Falls.

Cosponsors: Senator Carpenter of Aroostook and Representative Carroll of Limerick.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**AN ACT to Permit Producers of Perishable
Products to Ship on Seasonally Closed Ways.**

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

29 MRSA §902, as amended by PL 1975, c. 731, §47, is further amended to read:

§902. Seasonal closing of ways; notice; jurisdiction

The Department of Transportation, county commissioners and municipal officers ~~are authorized to~~ may promulgate ~~such~~ reasonable rules ~~and regulations as~~ which in their judgment may be necessary to insure the proper use and to prevent abuse of all highways under their maintenance or supervision by motor driven and animal drawn vehicles during ~~such those~~ those seasons of the year ~~as said that those~~ those highways require ~~such~~ special protection. These rules ~~and regu-~~

1 ations shall be kept on file. The Department of
2 Transportation shall designate state and state aid
3 highways and improved 3rd-class highways and bridges,
4 or sections thereof, over which, during such those
5 periods of each year as that may be determined by the
6 department, it shall be unlawful for any motor truck
7 or other vehicle or team to pass having a weight,
8 with or without load, exceeding that prescribed by
9 said the department, except that Maine producers of
10 perishable agricultural products may travel on these
11 ways or bridges during these periods when taking
12 perishable products to market; or to pass except ac-
13 cording to restrictions as to weight, speed, opera-
14 tion and equipment prescribed by the department and
15 pursuant to its permit or notice.

16 County commissioners and municipal officers may
17 make similar designations of any other ways and
18 bridges within their respective jurisdictions, and
19 impose similar restrictions upon vehicles passing
20 over the same, except that these restrictions may not
21 prevent Maine producers of perishable agricultural
22 products from travelling on these ways and bridges
23 during those periods of restricted or prohibited use
24 when taking perishable products to market. Provided
25 always that a notice, specifying the designated sec-
26 tions of a way or bridge, the periods of closing and
27 prescribed restrictions or exclusion shall be con-
28 spicuously posted at each end thereof. The municipal
29 officers of each municipality shall, within their
30 respective municipalities, have the same power as the
31 chief and members of the State Police in the enforce-
32 ment of this section and of all rules and regulations
33 promulgated by the Department of Transportation, the
34 county commissioners and the municipal officers of
35 towns pertaining thereto. Such These municipal offi-
36 cers shall, in such those cases, serve without com-
37 pensation.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit Maine producers of perishable agricultural products to use certain ways and bridges, that may be closed during certain seasons, in order to get their products to market quickly.

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