

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 451

6
7 H.P. 336

House of Representatives, February 6, 1985

8 On motion of Representative Theriault of Fort Kent, referred to the
9 Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MacBride of Presque Isle.
Cosponsored by Representative Pines of Limestone.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
16

17 AN ACT Concerning the Use of Seat Belts in
18 Motor Vehicles.
19

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

22 29 MRSA §1368-C is enacted to read:

23 §1368-C. Use of seat belts

24 1. Use of seat belts required. When any indi-
25 vidual is operating or is a passenger in a motor ve-
26 hicle in this State, and the motor vehicle is re-
27 quired by the United States Department of Transporta-
28 tion to be equipped with seat belts at the time of
29 manufacture or assembly, the individual shall be
30 properly secured in a seat belt, provided that a seat
31 belt was installed for that seating position in the
32 vehicle at the time the vehicle was manufactured or
33 assembled.

1 2. Exemptions. This section does not apply to
2 any person who:

3 A. Frequently stops and leaves the vehicle or
4 delivers property from the vehicle as long as the
5 speed limit of the vehicle does not exceed 15
6 miles per hour; or

7 B. Possesses written confirmation from a physi-
8 cian that he is unable for medical or physical
9 reasons to wear a seat belt.

10 3. Warning. Any person in violation of this
11 section during the initial 6 months after this sec-
12 tion takes effect shall be issued a warning that a
13 violation of this section has occurred.

14 4. Penalty. Following the initial 6-month warn-
15 ing period, violation of this section is a civil vio-
16 lation for which a forfeiture of \$25 for the first
17 violation and \$50 for each subsequent violation may
18 be adjudged.

19 STATEMENT OF FACT

20 The purpose of this bill is to require the use of
21 seat belts by operators and passengers in motor vehi-
22 cles which were equipped with seat belts at the time
23 of manufacture. The bill provides for a 6-month
24 warning period during which no forfeitures will be
25 adjudged for violation of the law. The bill provides
26 an exemption from the seat belt requirement for per-
27 sons who frequently stop and leave the motor vehicle
28 or who deliver property as long as their speed does
29 not exceed 15 miles per hour and for persons who for
30 medical or physical reasons cannot wear seat belts.

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