

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Draft of H.P. 1330, L.D. 1865)  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2316

H.P. 1643

House of Representatives, April 3, 1986

Reported by the Majority from the Committee on Transportation and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by Representative Randall of East Machias. Cosponsored by Representative Cahill of Woolwich, Representative Mills of Bethel and Representative Theriault of Fort Kent.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Require Motorcycle Driver Education  
for First-time Operators of  
Motorcycles.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §249, as amended by PL 1981, c. 492, Pt. E, §12, is further amended to read:

§249. Motorcycles

The annual fees for the registration of motorcycles shall be in accordance with this section and shall accompany the application for registration.

- Motorcycles ..... \$15 \$17 each.
- Mopeds ..... 5 each.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §§583-A to 583-F are enacted to read:

1     §583-A. Motorcycle driver education

2           Effective March 1, 1987, notwithstanding any oth-  
3 er provisions of law, no motorcycle or motor driven  
4 cycle learner's permit or permission or restriction  
5 to operate a motorcycle or motor driven cycle may be  
6 issued to any person under 21 years of age, unless  
7 that person presents a certificate of successful com-  
8 pletion of a motorcycle driver education course and  
9 examination given by the public secondary schools and  
10 academies receiving tuition students as described in  
11 Title 20-A, section 2951, or by a person or persons  
12 licensed by the Department of Business, Occupational  
13 and Professional Regulation; the course to include a  
14 demonstration of ability to safely operate a motorcy-  
15 cle. No license may be required of certified teachers  
16 conducting a motorcycle driver education course in  
17 public secondary schools or academies receiving tui-  
18 tion students as described in Title 20-A, section  
19 2951. All licenses expire on December 31st of the  
20 year of issue.

21           Any person between the ages of 16 and 21 years,  
22 who satisfies the Secretary of State that no readily  
23 available means of transportation exists to and from  
24 a secondary school or academy which he is attending,  
25 may be issued, upon passing the motorcycle or motor  
26 driven cycle driver's examination as provided in sec-  
27 tion 581, a special motorcycle or motor driven cycle  
28 permit authorizing that person to drive to and from  
29 the school or academy.

30     §583-B. Motorcycle driver education program

31           The prescribed motorcycle or motor driven cycle  
32 driver education program shall consist of an 8-hour  
33 block of instruction directly related to the actual  
34 operation of motorcycles and motor driven cycles, em-  
35 phasizing safety measures designed to insure greater  
36 awareness of careful and skillful operation of cy-  
37 cles.

38     §583-C. Instructions

39           No person may conduct a motorcycle driver educa-  
40 tion course unless that person has been certified by  
41 the Secretary of State as a qualified instructor.



1	Administration - Motor Vehicles	
2	Positions	(2.0)
3	Personal Services	\$47,957
4	All Other	16,276
5	Capital Expenditures	<u>25,050</u>
6	Total	\$89,283
7	Provides funds	
8	for 2 Driver Li-	
9	cense Examiner	
10	II positions to	
11	be hired at Step	
12	A of Range 19.	
13	Also provides	
14	funds for relat-	
15	ed material and	
16	equipment, in-	
17	cluding 2 motor-	
18	cycles for in-	
19	struction pur-	
20	poses. Funds not	
21	used for these	
22	purposes shall	
23	lapse back to	
24	the Highway	
25	Fund.	

26 FISCAL NOTE

27 This new draft requires a \$89,283 Highway Fund  
 28 allocation in fiscal year 1987 for 2 driver license  
 29 examiners and related costs.

30 The \$2 increase in motorcycle registration will  
 31 increase Highway Fund revenues by approximately  
 32 \$96,000.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           In an effort to rework L.D. 1865, the Joint  
3 Standing Committee on Transportation appointed a sub-  
4 committee on motorcycle driver education. The commit-  
5 tee identified several features of a driver education  
6 program for motorcycles that it considered important.

7           It should be a statewide program.

8           The program should be easy to administer.

9           The program should make maximum use of existing  
10 educational resources, including driver education  
11 programs within the schools and private driving  
12 schools.

13           Incentives should be offered to encourage more  
14 first-time operators of motorcycles to complete a mo-  
15 torcycle driver education program.

16           Based upon these objectives, the committee con-  
17 cluded that a new and strengthened motorcycle driver  
18 education program incorporate the following changes  
19 which are reflected in the new draft:

20           1. That the motorcycle driver education course  
21 time be increased from 2 hours to 8 hours, with 4  
22 hours of classroom instruction and 4 hours of range  
23 operation;

24           2. That for persons successfully completing the  
25 new driver education course, the requirement to take  
26 the permit test from the Secretary of State will be  
27 waived;

28           3. That first-time operators under the age of 21  
29 years be required to successfully complete the new  
30 driver education course before obtaining a permit;  
31 and

32           4. That 2 driver license examiners be hired  
33 within the Motor Vehicle Division to administer and  
34 coordinate the program.

1           It is estimated that the cost of this proposal  
2 for a revised motorcycle driver education program is  
3 approximately \$96,000. Raising the motorcycle regis-  
4 tration fee from the present rate of \$15 to \$17 will  
5 generate enough revenue to pay for the increased  
6 costs.

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