

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(New Draft of H.P. 1544, L.D. 2181)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2318

H.P. 1644 House of Representatives, April 3, 1986
Reported by Representative Macomber from the Committee on
Transportation and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by
Representative Murphy of Berwick. Cosponsored by Representative
Wentworth of Wells, Representative Racine of Biddeford and Senator Tuttle
of York.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Require Emergency Vehicles to Stop
and Proceed with Caution when
Overtaking and Passing School Buses.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis-
lature do not become effective until 90 days after
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, it is imperative to establish clear
guidelines for authorized emergency vehicles to fol-
low; and

Whereas, it is necessary to establish these clear
guidelines while this school year is still active;
and

Whereas, it is essential to give school bus oper-
ators clearer direction about dealing with authorized
emergency vehicles which need to proceed quickly; and

1 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
2 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
3 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
4 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
5 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
6 therefore,

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

9 29 MRSA §946-A, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1981, c.
10 88, §2, is amended to read:

11 2. Parking; proceeding past stop sign; stopped
12 school bus; exceeding speed limit. The driver of an
13 authorized emergency vehicle may:

14 A. Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions
15 of this chapter;

16 B. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop
17 sign, but only after slowing down as may be nec-
18 essary for safe operation;

19 C. Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as he
20 does not endanger life or property; and

21 D. Disregard regulations governing direction of
22 movement or turning in specified directions; and

23 E. Proceed with caution past a school bus which
24 is stopped and which has red lights flashing on-
25 ly:

26 (1) After coming to a complete stop; and

27 (2) When signaled by the school bus opera-
28 tor to proceed.

29 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited
30 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-
31 proved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This new draft accomplishes the intent of L.D. 2181, but places the changes that needed to be made in the appropriate statutory section. An emergency clause and emergency preamble are also added to the bill.

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