

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

NO. 72

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H.P. 69 House of Representatives, January 26, 1987  
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested  
and ordered printed.

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EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Presented by Representative Strout of Corinth.  
Cosponsored by Representative Macomber of South Portland  
and Representative McPherson of Eliot.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to Exempt Municipal Combination  
Snowplows and Dump Trucks from the  
Weight Limitations Imposed on Other  
Highway Vehicles.

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

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29 MRS A §1757 is enacted to read:

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§1757. Exemption

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Any municipal vehicle engaged in either  
snowplowing or gravel hauling, or both, during the  
winter months shall be exempt from the weight limita-  
tions otherwise imposed under this chapter.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           This bill seeks to exempt those municipal vehi-  
3 cles involved in both snow removal and road mainte-  
4 nance from the weight restrictions imposed on commer-  
5 cial vehicles. It recognizes and validates the prac-  
6 tice, common throughout the State, of using municipal  
7 dump trucks for the twofold purpose of snowplowing  
8 and gravel hauling in the wintertime.

9           Besides being a public safety measure designed to  
10 keep the roads in good conditions, the practice of  
11 relying on a single vehicle to perform dual functions  
12 is also a cost-effective one. It relieves a munici-  
13 pality from having either to maintain 2 separate  
14 fleets of trucks, or to attach or take of the  
15 snowplow equipment as the situation demands. The  
16 latter option is as impractical as the first, in  
17 light of the fact that it takes the best part of a  
18 workday to remove or install the snowplow and its at-  
19 tachments.

20           Since the weight restrictions and penalty system  
21 were imposed, numerous municipalities have incurred  
22 substantial fines for operating overweight combina-  
23 tion snowplows and dump trucks on state highways.  
24 This bill recognizes that those municipal vehicles  
25 which are performing valuable public safety functions  
26 should be exempted from strict compliance with  
27 legislated weight limits.

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