

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1245

H.P. 929 House of Representatives, April 13, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative WEYMOUTH of West Gardiner.
Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend the Traffic-control Signal
Law.

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

29 MRSA §947, sub-§3, ¶C, as amended by PL 1977,
c. 696, §216, is further amended to read:

C. All vehicular traffic facing a steady circular red signal at an intersection may cautiously enter the intersection to make a right turn after stopping as required by paragraph A, unless such a turn is prohibited by an appropriate sign such as "NO RIGHT TURN ON RED," which shall be 18 inches by 18 inches attached securely to the traffic light. The local community and the Department of Transportation in determining whether

1 or not to prohibit a right turn on red shall con-
2 sider at least the following factors: Proximity
3 of schools; proximity of fire stations; proximity
4 of residences or institutions for the blind; num-
5 ber of pedestrians using the intersection and the
6 complexity of the intersection. All vehicular
7 traffic executing such a turn shall yield the
8 right-of-way to pedestrians upon a crosswalk ad-
9 jacent to the intersection and to all traffic
10 moving on the lanes having the green or "Go" sig-
11 nal at the intersection.

12 STATEMENT OF FACT

13 Numerous drivers have been observed turning right
14 on a red light even though a posted sign indicated
15 "NO RIGHT TURN ON RED." This creates a serious
16 health and safety condition for other drivers, pas-
17 sengers and pedestrians. It appears most illegal
18 turns are not done because drivers flaunt the law,
19 but because while observing the traffic light, they
20 do not see the no-turn posted sign. Attachment of
21 the necessary sign would focus ones attention on the
22 traffic light and the no-turn sign simultaneously to
23 increase the protection of the public.

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