

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2019

H.P. 1485 House of Representatives, January 12, 1988

Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative SMITH of Island Falls.

Cosponsored by Representative SOUCY of Kittery and
Senator COLLINS of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT Pertaining to Radar Detectors.
2

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

5 29 MRSA §1254-A is enacted to read:

6 §1254-A. Prohibiting use of devices on motor vehicles
7 upon highways to detect presence of radar

8 It is unlawful for any person to operate a motor
9 vehicle upon the highways of this State when that

1 vehicle is equipped with any device or mechanism to
2 detect the emission of radio microwaves in the
3 electromagnetic spectrum, which microwaves are
4 employed by police to measure the speed of motor
5 vehicles upon the highways of this State for law
6 enforcement purposes. A person may not possess, use
7 or offer for sale any such device or mechanism as
8 described in this section and the presence of any such
9 device or mechanism in or upon a motor vehicle
10 traveling upon the highways of this State shall
11 constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of this
12 section. The State need not prove that the device in
13 question was in an operative condition or being
14 operated. Any such electronic or mechanical device
15 designed for detecting police speed monitoring
16 equipment is declared contraband and shall be seized
17 and destroyed by the State. Any person who violates
18 this section is guilty of a Class E crime.

19

STATEMENT OF FACT

20 The sole purpose of radar detection devices is to
21 alert the speeding motorist of the presence of police
22 radar so that the motorist can avoid apprehension. In
23 effect, a radar detection device enables the motorist
24 to violate speed laws with little risk of being
25 detected and apprehended.

26 For this reason, the use of radar detection
27 devices greatly impedes the police from effectively
28 enforcing speed limits. It is felt that this leads to
29 increased death and injury caused by traffic accidents
30 and increased consumption of fuel during a time of
31 decreasing fuel supplies.

32 This bill prohibits the possession, use or sale of
33 radar detectors, authorizes their seizure and
34 destruction by the State and provides that a violation
35 of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29, section
36 1254-A, results in a Class E crime.

37

3993120787