MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th WAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 409

H.P. 297

House of Representatives, February 23, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative KETOVER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative JALBERT of Lisbon, Representative LARRIVEE of Gorham and Representative PAUL of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Mandate Driver Training and the Use of Safety Belts by Police Officers.



1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
3	Sec. 1. 25 MRSA c. 405 is enacted to read:
5	CHAPTER 405
7	LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING
9	§3761. Scope
11 13	The requirements of this chapter are in addition to, not in lieu of, other law enforcement training requirements as set out in chapter 341 or by rule or local ordinance or regulation.
15	§3762. Driver training
17	Any municipal, county or state law enforcement officer whose
19	position in a law enforcement agency requires that officer to operate a motor vehicle while on active duty within the scope of
21	the officer's employment must successfully complete a course in defensive driving which has been approved by the Commissioner of
23	Public Safety.
25	Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §1368-D is enacted to read:
27	§1368-D. Use of seat belts; law enforcement personnel
29	1. Mandatory use. Any municipal or county law enforcement officer shall be secured by a seat belt when that officer is:
31	A. On active duty as a law enforcement officer; and
33	B. Operating or is a passenger in a motor vehicle belonging to that officer's law enforcement agency.
35	2. Enforcement. The head of each municipal or county law
37	enforcement agency shall enforce this section within that agency.
39	
41	STATEMENT OF FACT
43	This bill requires that any law enforcement officer who operates a motor vehicle while on active duty must take a
45	defensive driving course approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety.
47	This bill also requires that all municipal and county law
49	enforcement officers wear seat belts when in an official motor vehicle and on active duty. Enforcement of this requirement
51	rests with each municipal or county law enforcement agency head.