

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 619

H.P. 454

House of Representatives, March 6, 1989

Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STROUT of Corinth.

Cosponsored by Senator TWITCHELL of Oxford, Representative McPHERSON of Eliot and Senator GOULD of Waldo.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Relating to Highway Construction and Maintenance Signs and Advertising Signs.



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

3 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §654**, as amended by PL 1975, c. 771, §251, is
5 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

7 **§654. Detour roads and signs**

9 Before a state or state-aid highway is closed due to
11 construction, the department shall establish a practical detour
13 route and properly sign the route at all intersections. The
15 detour route shall be maintained in a condition adequate to serve
17 traffic until the state or state-aid highway under construction
19 is opened to traffic. Upon completion of the construction
21 project all detour signs shall be removed.

23 **Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1152** is repealed.

25 **Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §1255, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1971, c. 593,
27 **§22**, is further amended to read:

29 Notwithstanding section 1251 and section 1252, subsection 2,
31 the Department of Transportation shall have authority to restrict
33 the speed of all motor vehicles at any and all points on a
35 highway under construction or during maintenance where in the
37 opinion of the department a rate of speed less than that now
39 authorized by law will minimize the danger of accident and in
41 each such place shall fix the rate of speed in accordance with
43 its own judgment.

45 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

47 Section 1 removes obsolete language for signing at highway
49 construction sites.

51 The Department of Transportation uses the guidelines for
53 signing highway construction projects established by the Manual
on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. This manual has been
approved by the Federal Highway Administration for use as a
national standard.

The "Pass at your risk" sign is an obsolete sign which is
not found in the manual.

Section 2 removes obsolete language regarding billboards on
the Maine Turnpike. All signs are now governed by the Maine
traveler information services laws, the Maine Revised Statutes,
Title 23, chapter 21.

Section 3 clarifies the department's authority to reduce
speeds during both construction and maintenance or repair
operations.