MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1752

H.P. 1253

House of Representatives, June 13, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CARTER of Winslow.

Cosponsored by Senator ERWIN of Oxford and Representative FOSS of Yarmouth.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Concerning Reduction of Speed Limits in Inclement Weather.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)



1	Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
	become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
3	as emergencies; and
-	W/homong lands lands and a lands a lands and a lands a lan
5	Whereas, heavy trucks have caused longitudinal depressions which fill up with water and cause cars to hydroplane; and
7	
	Whereas, traveling at the current speed limit during
9	inclement weather has been a contributing factor in many accidents; and
11	accidencs; and
11	Whomas in the industrial factor of the factor of the factor
1.0	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
13	create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
	Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
15	necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
	safety; now, therefore,
17	
	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
19	AO 7577 CL 04074
	29 MRSA §1251 , as amended by PL 1987, c. 607, is further
21	amended to read by adding after the 2nd paragraph a new paragraph
	to read:
23	
	The speed limit shall be 45 miles per hour on any limited
25	access multilane highway or portion thereof, except the Maine
	Turnpike, when rain, snow or other precipitation is falling. The
27	Department of Transportation shall install speed limit signs at
	the access points and periodically along the highway which show
29	the bad weather speed limit. This paragraph is repealed 5 years
	after its effective date.
31	
	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the
33	preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.
35	
	STATEMENT OF FACT
37	
J.	This bill requires the Department of Transportation to
39	establish a bad weather speed limit of 45 miles per hour on
JJ	multilane limited access highways and to post the necessary signs
41	to inform motorists of this limit. The new provisions in this
#T	bill include a sunset provision which will repeal this law 5
4.2	
43	years from the effective date.