MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th WAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 133

H.P. 92

House of Representatives, January 14, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative TUPPER of Orrington.

Cosponsored by Representative HICHBORN of Howland, Representative SALISBURY of Ellsworth and Senator GOULD of Waldo.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act Concerning the Use of Headlights.



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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA \$1071, first ¶, as amended by PL 1969, c. 138, §4, is further amended to read:

Every vehicle, whether stationary or in motion, on any public way or bridge shall must have attached-to-it-a-light-orlights headlights and taillights so displayed as to be visible from the front and rear thereof during the period from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise, and at any other time due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, caused by fog or otherwise, persons and vehicles on the highways public ways or bridges are not clearly discernible at a distance of 500 1,000 feet ahead. This section shall does not apply to any vehicle which that is designed to be propelled by hand, nor to any parked vehicle net-in-motion-and-parked or a vehicle beside a curb in a place and under conditions where there is sufficient artificial light to make such that vehicle clearly visible from a distance net-less-than of at least 100 feet in each direction. "Sunrise" and "sunset" shall-be are the time times given in the Maine Farmers' Almanac. A person who fails to comply with this paragraph commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$50 may be adjudged.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA \$1366, 2nd \P , as amended by PL 1981, c. 98, \$9, is further amended to read:

Every headlamp, upon every motor vehicle, including every motorcycle and motor driven cycle, shall must be located at a height measured from the center of the headlamp of not more than 54 inches nor less than 22 inches above the level surface upon which said the vehicle stands. Headlamps on snow plows may be located at a height greater than 54 inches above said the level surface. All such headlamps shall must be equipped with lenses or reflectors that emit only a white beam of light. The lamps and lights shall must conform to and operate in accordance with section 1071 and the rules and-regulations-premulgated adopted from time to time by the Commissioner of Public Safety and-shall be-lighted-during-the-period-from-1/2-hour-after-sunset-to-1/2 hour-before-sunriser-and-at-any-time-whenr-due-to-insufficient light-or-unfavorable-atmospheric-condition,-caused-by-fog-or etherwise, -- persons -in-vehicles -on-the-highway-are-not-elearly discernible-for-a-distance-of-500-feet-ahead; -except-as-provided in-section-1755. and Art Consultation will all making the Consultations

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill makes the standard of atmospheric conditions requiring the use of car lights more stringent. The bill adds a forfeiture for persons failing to comply with the display of

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lights when required by law. The bill also removes redundant language from another section of law.