

# 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)



# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

---

Legislative Document

No. 483

H.P. 353

House of Representatives, February 8, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.  
Cosponsored by Representative BUTLAND of Cumberland.

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

An Act to Decrease the Speed Limit to 55 Miles Per Hour.

---

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

2  
4       Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §1251, first ¶, as amended by PL 1987, c. 607,  
is further amended to read:

6       Except as provided in section 1255 and notwithstanding  
8       section 1252, subsection 2, the Commissioner of Transportation,  
with the consent and approval of the Chief of the Maine State  
10       Police, ~~shall have~~ has the authority to restrict the maximum rate  
of speed allowed by law or established by the commissioner with  
12       the consent and approval of the Chief of the Maine State Police  
at any and all points on the highway where in the opinion of the  
14       commissioner, with the consent and approval of the Chief of the  
Maine State Police, an adjusted speed limit ~~will--minimize~~  
16       minimizes the danger of accident, ~~premete~~ promotes the free flow  
of traffic, ~~conserve~~ conserves motor fuel or ~~respond~~ responds to  
18       changes in federal laws, and in each such place shall fix the  
rate of speed in accordance with ~~his--own~~ the commissioner's  
20       judgment. For the purposes of this section and section 1252, the  
Department of Transportation may fix the rate of speed upon any  
22       discontinued or abandoned town way over which a municipality has  
retained a public easement and the posted rate of speed upon that  
24       public easement may be enforced in the same manner as upon any  
public way, street or highway. The Department of Transportation,  
26       with the consent and approval of the Chief of the Maine State  
Police, ~~shall have~~ has authority to increase the speeds of all  
28       motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where, in ~~its~~  
the department's opinion, higher speeds are warranted to promote  
30       the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, provided that such  
the increased speed shall ~~does~~ does not exceed 60 miles per hour for  
32       vehicles, except on the interstate system or other divided  
controlled-access highways such the increased speed shall ~~does~~  
34       does not exceed ~~65~~ 55 miles per hour for vehicles. Any adjustment to  
the rate of speed established pursuant to this section shall ~~be~~  
36       is exempt from the provisions of the Maine Administrative  
Procedure Act, ~~Title 5, chapter 375~~. This section shall ~~does~~ does not  
38       apply to that portion of the interstate system which that is part  
of the Maine Turnpike.

40       Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §1252, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 257,  
§4, is amended to read:

42  
44       5. **Maine Turnpike and interstate highways.** Any person who  
operates a motor vehicle on the Maine Turnpike or the Interstate  
46       Highway System at a speed which that exceeds the posted speed of  
~~65~~ 55 miles per hour commits a traffic infraction punishable by a  
fine of not less than \$50 \$75.

2

## STATEMENT OF FACT

4

6       This bill lowers the speed limit on the Maine Turnpike and  
Interstate 95 to 55 miles per hour and increases the minimum fine  
to \$75.