



# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 607

H.P. 424

House of Representatives, February 13, 1991

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STROUT of Corinth. Cosponsored by Representative MACOMBER of South Portland. Se

Cosponsored by Representative MACOMBER of South Portland, Senator GOULD of Waldo and Representative MARTIN of Van Buren.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Regarding Amber Lights on Snowplows and Sanding Equipment.

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

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29 MRSA § 1462, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 50, is amended to read:

1. Amber lights required on vehicles. All vehicles, while 6 being used for the express purpose of plowing snow or sanding on 8 public ways shall, must be equipped with at least 2 auxiliary lights to be mounted on the highest practical point on the vehicle, one showing to the front and one to the rear of the 10 vehicle. The lights shall must emit an amber beam of light and shall, be at least 6 inches in diameter and shall be equipped 12 with blinker attachments. In lieu of the lights specified, vehicles may be equipped with at-least one either an auxiliary 14 rotary flashing light having 4-inch sealed beams and showing amber beams of light over a 360° range or an amber strobe, or 16 combination of strobes, that emits as a minimum a beam of 1,000,000 candlepower and that provides visible light coverage 18 <u>over a 360° range.</u> When the left wing of the plow is in 20 operation and extends over the center of the road, an auxiliary light shall must show the extreme end of the left wing. This light may be attached to the vehicle with the beam of light 22 pointed at the left wing. These lights may be controlled by a 24 separate switch or may be controlled by the regular lighting system and shall must be in operation whenever the vehicles are used for plowing snow and sanding on public ways in either the 26 nighttime or daytime. The use of these auxiliary lights shall 28 does not relieve the owner or operator from conforming to section 1366.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

#### 34 Current law establishes the required size of amber strobe lights based on the size, in inches, of the light. Technology 36 has developed smaller-sized lights with greater candlepower and some Department of Transportation and municipal vehicles have 38 these newer lights. This bill recognizes these newer lights, and closes a loophole which might result in court actions involving 40 vehicles so equipped.