

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 443, L.D. 633, Bill, "An Act Relating to Violations Involving the Disregard of Red Flashing Lights on School Buses"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the amending clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'2-A. Registered owner's liability for vehicle illegally passing a school bus. A person who is a registered owner of a vehicle at the time that vehicle is involved in a violation of subsection 2 violates this subsection as follows. For purposes of this subsection, "registered owner" includes a person issued a dealer or transporter registration plate.

A. The operator of a school bus who observes a violation of subsection 2 may report the violation to a police officer. If a report is made, the operator shall report the time and the location of the violation and the registration plate number and a description of the vehicle involved. The officer shall initiate an investigation of the reported violation and, if possible, contact the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved and request that the registered owner supply information identifying the operator.

B. The investigating officer may cause the registered owner of the vehicle to be served with a summons for a violation of this subsection.

C. Except as provided in paragraph D, it is not a defense to a violation of this subsection that a registered owner was not operating the vehicle at the time of the violation.

D. The following are defenses to a violation of this subsection.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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6 This amendment clarifies the language in regard to defenses
to the violation and makes the offense a civil violation. The
amendment also clarifies that the holder of a dealer or
8 transporter registration plate will be considered to be the
owner. The holder of such a plate is still exempt from the
10 violation if the holder identifies the person who was operating
the vehicle at the time of the violation.

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Reported by the Committee on Transportation
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