

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1142

H.P. 796

House of Representatives, March 18, 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 AIKMAN of Poland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to Amend the Laws That Govern Stopping for Certain
Approaching Animals.**

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

2
4 29 MRSA §997, as amended by PL 1967, c. 200, is further amended to read:

6 **§997. Stop on approaching certain animals**

8 ~~Whoever, driving or operating a~~ A motor vehicle ~~upon any way~~
operator who, when approaching from the opposite direction a
10 person riding, driving or leading a horse or other animal which
appears ~~to be frightened~~, is signalled by putting up ~~of the~~ a
12 hand or by other visible sign by such the person, shall cause
such stop the motor vehicle ~~to come to a stop~~ as soon as possible
14 and remain stationary as long as it ~~may be~~ is necessary and
reasonable to allow such the horse or animal to pass. Whenever
16 traveling in the same direction, the ~~person operating a~~ motor
vehicle operator shall use reasonable caution in passing horses
18 or other animals and vehicles.

20 ~~No A motor vehicle operator of a motor vehicle shall~~ may not
operate a motor vehicle in such a manner as to willfully annoy,
22 startle, harass or frighten any animal being ridden ~~or~~ driven or
led in any direction on or near a public way. ~~No A motor vehicle~~
24 operator or ~~person in a motor vehicle shall~~ passenger may not
throw any object or substance from the vehicle toward the animal
26 being ridden ~~or~~ driven or led.

28
30 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

32 This bill requires motor vehicle operators to stop their
vehicles when signalled to do so by a person riding, driving or
34 leading a horse or other animal on a public way and removes the
condition that the animal or horse must appear frightened in
36 order for the motor vehicle operator to stop.

38 The bill makes other changes that are not substantive in
nature but merely update the law to conform to current statutory
40 language.