

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2155

H.P. 1526

House of Representatives, January 14, 1992

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

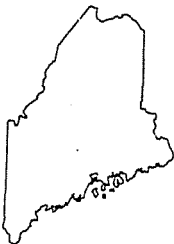
Presented by Representative BAILEY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Representative MACOMBER of South Portland, Representative STROUT of Corinth and Senator THERIAULT of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws.



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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §1, sub-§13-B is enacted to read:

13-B. Solid waste. "Solid waste" means useless, unwanted or discarded solid material with insufficient liquid content to be free-flowing.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §946-C, sub-§2, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 444, §5, is amended by amending sub-¶¶(3) and (4) to read:

(3) A vehicle engaged in snow removal or sanding operations on a public way must be equipped with and display at least 2 auxiliary lights mounted on the highest practical point on the vehicle, ~~one showing to the front and one to the rear of the vehicle~~ and provide visible light coverage over a 360° range. The lights must emit an amber beam of light, be at least 6 inches in diameter and be equipped with blinking attachments. In lieu of the lights specified, a vehicle may be equipped with at least one auxiliary rotating flashing light having 4-inch sealed beams and showing amber beams of light over a 360° range or an amber strobe, or combination of strobes, that emits at a minimum a beam of 1,000,000 candlepower and provides visible light coverage over a 360° range. When the left wing of a plow is in operation and extends over the center of the road, an auxiliary light must show the extreme end of the left wing. That light may be attached to the vehicle so that the beam of light points at the left wing. The light illuminating the left wing may be controlled by a separate switch or by the regular lighting system and must be in operation at all times when the vehicle is used for plowing snow and sanding on public ways.

(4) A vehicle equipped and used for plowing snow on other than public ways may be equipped with an auxiliary rotary flashing light that must be mounted on top of the vehicle in such a manner as to emit an amber beam of light over a 360° angle, or an amber strobe, or combination of strobes, that emits as at a minimum a beam of 1,000,000 candlepower and that provides visible light coverage over a 360° range. The lighting light may only be in use on a public way only when the vehicle is entering the public way in the course of plowing private driveways and other off-highway locations.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §1655, first ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 866, Pt. B, §12 and affected by §26, is further amended to read:

The operation on the highways of any vehicle loaded entirely with building materials that absorb moisture during delivery originating and terminating within the State, bark, sawdust, firewood, sawed lumber, dimension lumber, pulpwood, wood chips, logs, soils, unconsolidated rock materials including limestone, bolts, farm produce, road salt, manufacturer's concrete products, solid waste, ~~building materials and~~ or incinerator ash that ~~absorb moisture during delivery originating and terminating within the State~~; or dump trucks, tractor dump trucks or transit-mix concrete trucks carrying highway construction materials; or any vehicle loaded with a majority of products requiring refrigeration, whether by ice or mechanical equipment, and on those vehicles when inspected by the State Police, the number of the seal must be recorded and the number of the new seal must be recorded by the State Police, and the operation on the highways of any vehicle loaded with raw ore from mine or quarry to place of processing may is not be determined to be in violation if the gross weight of that vehicle does not exceed 110% of the maximum gross weight permitted for that vehicle by section 1652, and provided that the maximum axle loads ~~for these vehicles do~~ load does not exceed 24,200 pounds for a single axle unit, 46,000 pounds for a tandem axle unit and 54,000 pounds for a tri-axle unit, except that 64,000 pounds ~~must be~~ is permitted on the tri-axle unit of a 4-axle motor vehicle hauling forest products provided that a special commodity permit is obtained. When any of the tolerances in this section are exceeded, the difference between the actual weights and the respective limits established in section 1652 must be used as the basis for determining the percentage of overload on which the penalty in section 1654 ~~must be~~ is assessed.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §2501-A, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1981, c. 117, §2, is further amended to read:

2. **Failure to stop.** It is unlawful for the operator of any motor vehicle to fail or refuse to stop that vehicle upon request or signal of any uniformed law enforcement officer or, once having stopped the vehicle, to fail or refuse to remain in or on the vehicle until the officer indicates that the operator may exit or dismount. Failure to comply with this subsection is a Class E crime.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill affects the laws concerning motor vehicles. It adds the definition of "solid waste" to mean useless, unwanted or discarded solid material with insufficient liquid content to be

2 free-flowing. It clarifies certain weight tolerances on the
highways. It makes a technical change concerning the use of
4 amber lights on snowplows and amends the law concerning stopping
for a law enforcement officer to prohibit an operator of a motor
6 vehicle from exiting the motor vehicle until the law enforcement
officer indicates to do so.