

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 131

S.P. 69

In Senate, January 25, 1993

An Act to Amend the Traveler Information Services Laws.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOSE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative TOWNSEND of Eastport.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, businesses within the State are currently losing revenue because they are unable to adequately advertise their presence, resulting in the loss of potential tax revenues; and

Whereas, these lost business and tax revenues are needed and should be available to the economy of the State before the end of the 90-day period; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRS §1914-A is enacted to read:

§1914-A. Specially authorized approach signs

Notwithstanding section 1914, a person may apply to the commissioner for authorization to erect one approach sign in each direction along a public way if that person owns or operates a licensed eating establishment that abuts the public way in a manner that prevents a motorist from having adequate time to observe and respond to an on-premises sign or, because of the presence of hills or curves within 1,500 feet of the establishment, would cause a motorist followed by a heavy-duty vehicle, such as a truck or a tractor trailer, not to stop for fear of causing an accident. These signs may not exceed 100 square feet per sign and must be located within 1,500 feet of the property boundary of the establishment.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows certain restaurants to apply for authorization to erect off-premises approach signs if the restaurants are located in such a way as to preclude motorists from observing on-premises signs or stopping due to conditions resulting from the way the roads on which the restaurants are located are constructed.