

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1233

H.P. 878

House of Representatives, April 6, 1995

An Act to Provide Uniform Weight Limits for Public Ways in the State.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative STEDMAN of Hartland.
Cosponsored by Representative: JONES of Pittsfield.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §§2352 to 2354**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are repealed.

6 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2355**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

8 **§2355. Public ways; Interstate Highway System weight limits**

10 **1. Maximum weight.** ~~Notwithstanding---section---2353, subsections-1-and-2,--a~~ A vehicle may be operated on a public way or the Interstate Highway System with maximum weights permitted by this subsection if the weight does not exceed 80,000 pounds or the following formula, whichever is less.

12

$$14 \quad W = 500\left(\frac{LN}{N - 1} + 12N + 36\right)$$

16

18 W = overall gross weight on any group of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds

20 L = overall distance in feet between the extreme of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles

22 N = number of axles in group under consideration.

24 **2. Axle limits.** ~~Notwithstanding sections 2353 and 2357, on~~ On a public way or on the Interstate Highway System, the weight may not exceed:

26 A. On a single-axle unit:

28 (1) When the GVW is 73,280 pounds or less, 22,000 pounds; or

30 (2) When the GVW exceeds 73,280 pounds, 20,000 pounds;

32 B. On a tandem-axle unit, 34,000 pounds; and

34 C. On axles groups containing 2 or more axles, the maximum determined by the formula in subsection 1.

36 **3. Three-axle truck.** A 3-axle truck with brakes on all wheels, with a GVW of 48,000 pounds or less, may be operated on a public way or the Interstate Highway System when hauling:

38 A. Forest products or raw ore from the mine or quarry to a place of processing, with a distance between extreme axles of not less than 18 feet; or

2 B. Construction materials, with a distance between extreme
axles of not less than 16 feet.

4 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2357**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt.
A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

6 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §2358, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
8 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

10 **9. Fees.** Subject to the provisions of Title 5, chapter
375, subchapter IV, the operator of a vehicle registered in this
12 State found to violate section ~~2352~~ 2355 shall pay to the officer
weighing the vehicle the difference between the annual
14 registration fee for the actual weight of the vehicle and the
annual registration fee previously paid prior to proceeding.

16 The operator of a foreign-registered vehicle found to be in
18 violation of section ~~2352~~, ~~sub-section-2~~ 2355 must obtain a trip
permit for a fee of \$25 before the vehicle may proceed. The trip
20 permit is valid for 72 hours. The Secretary of State shall
notify the violator's home jurisdiction of the violation of
22 section ~~2352~~ 2355.

24 The payment of a fee under this section does not preclude the
imposition of fines or penalties. Upon payment of the fee, the
26 officer shall give the operator a temporary registration
certificate. Fees collected must be returned to the Secretary of
28 State at least biweekly. These fees accrue to the Highway Fund.

30 **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §2360, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

32 **3. Schedule of fines.** The fine must be based on the
34 amount of gross vehicle weight or axle weight in excess of the
limits prescribed in ~~sections-2352-to~~ section 2355.

36 This schedule is cumulative:

40	Percent over allowed basic weight	Fine for each percent
42	1-10%	\$10 for each percent
44	11-20%	\$100 + \$15 for each percent over 10%
46	21-30%	\$250 + \$20 for each percent over 20%
48	31-40%	\$450 + \$25 for each percent over 30%
50		
52		

