

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

---

Legislative Document

No. 1836

---

H.P. 1341

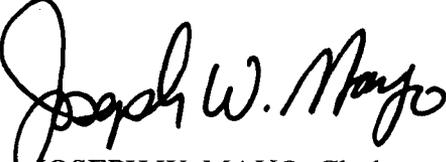
House of Representatives, March 11, 1996

**An Act Requiring Qualified Investigation of Certain Truck-related and  
Bus-related Fatalities.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

---

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative LEMKE of Westbrook.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BENEDIKT of Brunswick, BUCK of Yarmouth,  
CHIZMAR of Lisbon, KERR of Old Orchard Beach, TRIPP of Topsham.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRS §2251, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
5 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

6 **4. Investigation.** A law enforcement officer who  
7 investigates a reportable accident shall:

8  
9 A. Interview participants and witnesses; and

10  
11 B. Within 5 days from the time of notification of the  
12 accident, transmit a written report containing all available  
13 information to the Chief of the State Police.

14  
15 Every reported accident must be promptly investigated.

16  
17 If the accident results in serious bodily injury or death of any  
18 person, the investigation must be conducted by an officer who has  
19 met the training standards of a full-time law enforcement  
20 officer. The investigation of an accident that results in the  
21 death of any person and involves a truck that weighs 10,000  
22 pounds or more or a bus must be conducted by the investigators  
23 from the Maine State Police accident reconstruction program and  
24 the commercial vehicle enforcement unit. These investigators may  
25 travel out-of-state when necessary in the course of an  
26 investigation. A prosecution arising out of an investigation of  
27 an accident that results in the death of any person and involves  
28 a truck that weighs 10,000 pounds or more or a bus must be  
29 conducted by the Office of the Attorney General.

30  
31  
32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

33  
34 This bill requires that the investigators from the Maine  
35 State Police accident reconstruction program and the commercial  
36 vehicle enforcement unit must investigate a fatal accident  
37 involving a truck that weighs 10,000 pounds or more or a bus.  
38 These investigators may travel out-of-state when necessary in the  
39 course of an investigation. A prosecution arising out of such an  
40 investigation must be conducted by the Office of the Attorney  
General.