

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)



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1208

H.P. 891

House of Representatives, February 25, 1997

**An Act to Allow the Courts to Suspend the Drivers' Licenses of
Individuals Convicted of Civil Offenses Who Fail to Pay Their Fines
within the Time Limits Ordered by the Court.**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOOLEY of Farmington.
Cosponsored by Senator BENOIT of Franklin and
Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CARLETON of Wells, CLARK of
Millinocket, DESMOND of Mapleton, DEXTER of Kingfield, JOY of Crystal, KERR of Old
Orchard Beach, O'BRIEN of Augusta.

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

2
3
4 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §3141, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 65,
Pt. A, §39 and affected by §153 and affected by Pt. C, §15, is
6 further amended by amending the first paragraph to read:

8 **3. Immediate payment.** When a court has imposed a fine, as
described in subsection 1, the imposition of such a fine
10 constitutes an order to pay the full amount of the fine in
accordance with this chapter. Following imposition of the fine,
12 the court shall inform the defendant that full payment of the
fine is due immediately and shall inquire of the defendant what
14 arrangements the defendant has made to comply with the court's
order to pay the fine. Without utilizing the provisions of
16 subsection 4, the court may allow the defendant a period of time,
not to extend beyond the time of the close of the clerk's office
18 on that day, within which to return to the court and tender
payment of the fine. If the defendant fails to appear as
20 directed, the court shall issue a civil order of arrest. The
arrest order must be carried out by the sheriff as a civil order
22 of arrest is carried out under section 3135. ~~If the underlying
offense involves any violation of Title 23, section 1980; Title
28-A, section 2052; or Title 29-A, the~~ The court shall also, upon
24 the defendant's failure to appear, suspend the defendant's
license or permit to operate motor vehicles in this State and the
26 right to apply for or obtain a license or permit to operate a
motor vehicle in this State.

28
29 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2605, sub-§§1 and 2**, as enacted by PL 1993,
30 c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are amended to read:

32 **1. Suspension by clerk.** If a person fails to appear in
court on the date and time specified in response to a Uniform
34 Summons and Complaint, a summons, a condition of bail or order of
court for any criminal violation of Title 23, section 1980; ~~a any~~
36 civil violation under Title 28-A, section 2052; or any criminal
provision of this Title, or for any further appearance ordered by
38 the court, including one for the payment of a fine, either in
person or by counsel, or fails to pay a fine imposed for a civil
40 violation or a criminal traffic offense, the clerk shall suspend
the person's license or permit, the right to operate a motor
42 vehicle in this State and the right to apply for or obtain a
license or permit.

44
45 If a person who is not an individual fails to appear or pay a
46 fine ~~in~~ for a civil violation or a criminal traffic offense, the
clerk shall suspend the registration of the motor vehicle
48 involved in the offense or that person's right to operate that
vehicle in the State.

50

