

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1687

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H.P. 1188

House of Representatives, March 27, 1997

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### An Act to Regulate the Use of Tow Trucks.

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MACK of Standish.  
Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and  
Representatives: FOSTER of Gray, LAYTON of Cherryfield, MacDOUGALL of North  
Berwick, TUTTLE of Sanford, UNDERWOOD of Oxford, WINN of Glenburn, Senators:  
MacKINNON of York, MILLS of Somerset.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1861** is enacted to read:

6 **§1861. Towing of vehicles**

8 **1. Maximum towing charges.** The maximum charge for removing  
10 a vehicle from a wrecker or tow truck is \$20. A vehicle may not  
12 be considered to be on a tow truck or wrecker and no charge may  
14 be assessed if all the vehicle's wheels are on the ground. The  
16 maximum charge for towing a vehicle is \$60.

18 **2. Maximum storage charge.** The maximum charge for storage  
20 of a vehicle is \$15 per day.

22 **3. Damages.** The owner of the wrecker or tow truck is  
24 liable for damage to a vehicle arising from the towing of the  
26 vehicle.

28 **4. Application.** This section applies only to a vehicle  
30 that is towed without the express permission of the owner or  
32 operator of the vehicle.  
34

**SUMMARY**

This bill applies to a vehicle that is towed without the  
permission of the owner or operator of the vehicle. The bill  
establishes maximum towing and storage charges and makes the  
owner of the wrecker or tow truck liable for damages arising from  
the towing of a vehicle. The bill also provides that a vehicle  
may not be considered to be on a tow truck or wrecker and no  
charge may be assessed if all the vehicle's wheels are on the  
ground.