

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

No. 2038

H.P. 1447

House of Representatives, January 15, 1998

An Act to Enhance the Safety of Snowmobile Rental Operations.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JONES of Greenville.
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and
Representatives: CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, STANLEY of Medway, Senator: HALL of
Piscataquis.

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

4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7821, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6 6. Snowmobile rental agent. "Snowmobile rental agent"
8 means any person, business or corporation that collects fees or
receives any form of compensation in exchange for the use of a
snowmobile by another person.

10 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7825-B is enacted to read:

12 §7825-B. Snowmobile rental agent safety instruction requirements

14 A snowmobile rental agent who rents or leases a snowmobile
16 to another person first must properly instruct that person in
proper snowmobile operation, including the use of the brake,
18 throttle and kill switch, and provide to that person a copy of a
pamphlet describing hand signals that is prepared by a national
20 council of snowmobile associations. The person to whom the
snowmobile is rented or leased shall sign a statement that the
22 instructions required by this section have been explained and
that that person understands them. The original of the statement
24 must be retained by the rental agent and a copy given to the
person to whom the snowmobile is rented or leased.

26 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7827, sub-§26 is enacted to read:

28 26. Unlawfully renting or leasing snowmobile. A person is
30 guilty of unlawfully renting or leasing a snowmobile to another
person if that person rents or leases a snowmobile to another
32 person without complying with the snowmobile rental agent safety
instruction requirements described in section 7825-B.

34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill requires a snowmobile rental agent who rents or
38 leases a snowmobile to another person to instruct that person in
40 proper snowmobile operation, including the use of the brake,
throttle and kill switch, and provide to that person a copy of a
42 pamphlet describing hand signals. A rental agent who fails to do
this commits a Class E crime.