

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 884

H.P. 634

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

**An Act to Increase Sanctions for Passing School Buses that Have Red
Lights Flashing.**

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 POWERS of Rockport.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CHIZMAR of Lisbon, MUSE of South Portland, POVICH
of Ellsworth, SANBORN of Alton.

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

2
4 Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2308, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

6 6. **Penalty.** A violation of this section is a Class E crime
which ~~that~~, notwithstanding Title 17-A, section 1301, is
8 punishable by a \$250 minimum fine and a mandatory 30-day
suspension of the operator's driver's license for the first
10 offense ~~and a mandatory 30-day suspension of a driver's license~~
~~for a~~. A 2nd offense occurring within ~~3~~ 2 years of the first
12 offense is punishable by a 90-day suspension of the operator's
driver's license.

14
16 A person who commits a first offense of this section may serve in
lieu of the license suspension 80 hours of community service for
the school district for which the bus was operating. The school
18 district shall determine the nature of the service and the person
shall complete the service within one year of conviction.

22 SUMMARY

24 In the following ways this bill amends the penalties for
illegally passing a school bus that is stopped and has its red
26 lights flashing:

28 1. For a first offense, adds a mandatory 30-day license
suspension;

30 2. Allows a first-time offender the option of serving 80
32 hours of community service to the school district in lieu of the
license suspension;

34 3. Increases the mandatory license suspension from 30 to 90
36 days for a 2nd offense; and

38 4. Decreases the length of time from 3 years to 2 years
after a first offense for which a 2nd offense will carry a
40 mandatory 90-day license suspension.