

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 902

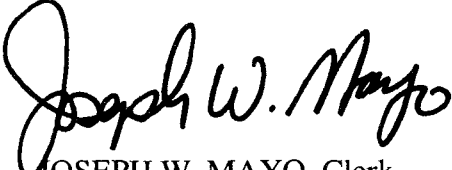
H.P. 652

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

### An Act to Limit Load Weights on State Roads.

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POWERS of Rockport.

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

2  
4       **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1191, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 65,  
Pt. A, §17 and affected by §153 and Pt. C, §15, is further  
amended to read:

6  
8       **2. Motor vehicle.** "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled  
vehicle designed primarily to transport not more than 14  
10 individuals, except motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain  
vehicles, customized vans and any vehicle operated exclusively on  
12 a rail or rails. This definition is intended to include motor  
trucks that have a gross weight of not more than 8,600 pounds as  
14 certified by the vehicle manufacturer or franchise representative  
pursuant to ~~Title 29-A, section 2354, subsection 2, paragraph D,~~  
16 Title 29-A, section 2364, subsection 5 and ~~Title 29-A, section~~  
~~2365, subsection 8.~~

18       **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2352, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
20 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

22       Except as allowed by specific exception in sections 2357,  
2365 and 2382, a vehicle may not be operated on a public way if  
the weight exceeds:

24  
26       **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2352, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

28       **1. Maximum.** A gross vehicle weight of 90,000 80,000  
pounds, ~~except as provided in section 2354, subsection 2;~~

30  
32       **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §2353, sub-§1, ¶D**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

34       ~~D. Except as provided in section 2354, subsections 1 and 2,~~  
36 ~~section 2357, subsection 4 and section 2365 for~~ **For**  
combination vehicles with 5 or more axles, 80,000 pounds.

38       **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §2354**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt.  
40 A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

42       **Sec. 6. 29-A MRSA §2357, sub-§§4 and 7**, as enacted by PL 1993,  
c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are amended to read:

44       **4. Six-axle combination.** Notwithstanding subsection 2, a  
6-axle combination vehicle, consisting of a 3-axle truck tractor  
46 operating in combination with a tri-axle semitrailer may not  
exceed 100,000 80,000 pounds. The distance between the extreme  
48 axles of a vehicle under this subsection, excluding the steering  
axle, must be at least 32 feet.

50

2 If a truck tractor is registered in a jurisdiction where the  
maximum allowable registered weight is less than ~~90,000~~ 80,000  
4 pounds, the vehicle must have a permit authorizing operation in  
this State. The annual fee for the permit is \$105. The permit  
6 may be issued for a period of 3 months or more on a monthly  
prorated basis, but may not exceed the expiration date of the  
annual registration.

8  
10 **7. Penalty calculation; fine base.** When a weight tolerance  
established in this section is exceeded, the difference between  
12 the actual weight and the fine base for the tolerance must be  
used as the basis for determining the percentage of overload in  
14 section 2360 and the tolerance must be disregarded. The fine  
base for tolerances described in subsection 2 is the appropriate  
16 limit in section 2353 and ~~90,000~~ 80,000 pounds is the appropriate  
limit for the 6-axle combination vehicle described in subsection  
4.

18  
20 **Sec. 7. 29-A MRSA §2364, sub-§8, ¶¶D and F,** as enacted by PL  
1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are amended to  
22 read:

24 D. The maximum permitted gross vehicle weight is ~~85,000~~  
80,000 pounds;

26 F. The following forgiveness provisions are granted on the  
gross vehicle weight and axle weight limits:

28  
30 Gross vehicle weight  
~~85,001~~ 80,001 lbs. Fine waived  
32 to ~~87,499~~ 82,350 lbs. Fine waived  
~~87,500~~ 82,351 lbs. Fine reduced 50%  
34 to ~~89,999~~ 84,699 lbs. Full fine  
~~90,000~~ 84,700 lbs. or more Full fine  
36 Axle weight  
Steering axle No forgiveness granted  
38 Axles 2 to 6:  
15,001 lbs. to 15,999 lbs. Fine waived  
40 16,000 lbs. to 16,499 lbs. Fine reduced 2/3  
16,500 lbs. to 16,999 lbs. Fine reduced 50%  
42 17,000 lbs. or more Full fine  
No other tolerances or forgivenesses  
44 apply; and

46  
48 **Sec. 8. 29-A MRSA §2365,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt.  
A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

## SUMMARY

2

4           This bill limits the gross vehicle weight of vehicles  
traveling on roads in Maine to 80,000 pounds.