



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1491

H.P. 1060

House of Representatives, February 23, 1999

An Act to Improve Access to Driver Education.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SHERMAN of Hodgdon. Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, BELANGER of Caribou, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1354, sub-§5-A, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 505, $\S15$, and affected by $\S22$, is amended to read: 4 6 5-A. License fees. Except as provided in section 1355, license fees must be paid to the Secretary of State and deposited 8 into the Highway Fund. The following fees apply. 10 A---The-fee-fer-a-driver-education-school-license-is-\$125-12 Β. The fee for a driver education teacher or instructor license is \$80, except that a driver education teacher or instructor who is also a certified teacher in a public or 14 private secondary school is exempt from license fees required in this subsection. 16 18 C. Each license issued pursuant to this section expires one year from the date of issuance. The-fee-for-the renewal-of a-driver-education-school-license-is-\$125. The fee for the 20 renewal of a driver education teacher or instructor license 22 is \$80. 24 D. A noncommercial driver education school that offers driver education for course credit and does not charge a fee for driver education is exempt from the license fees 26 required in this subsection. A driver education teacher 28 employed by and providing driver education only in a school exempt from license fees in accordance with this paragraph also exempt from license fees required in 30 is this subsection. b! 1995, c. 505, @15 (new); @22 (aff). ?b 32 This-subsection-takes-effect-January-1,-1997. 34 Sec. 2. Duties of Secretary of State. Pursuant to the duties contained in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, 36 section 1354, subsection 6, the Secretary of State shall adopt or amend 38 the policies regarding driver education programs and the licensing and relicensing of driver education teachers and instructors in accordance with the following requirements. 40 42 1. Class size may not be limited. 44 A mandatory number of hours of classroom instruction may 2. not be required before driver education teachers and 46 instructors may begin behind-the-wheel instruction of students. 48 3. Inspection of a driver education vehicle by a state 50 inspector before it is approved for use in behind-the-wheel instruction may not be required.

- 2 4. Driver education teachers and instructors may not be required to repeat defensive driving courses or first aid courses as a condition of renewal of a license.
- 5. Driver education teachers and instructors may not be required to maintain student records on file for longer than
 one year.
- 10 SUMMARY 12 This bill removes the license fee for driver education 14 schools and driver education teachers and instructors who are also certified teachers in public and private secondary schools. 16 The bill also requires that the Secretary of State make certain changes to the policies governing driver education programs and 18 the licensing and relicensing of driver education teachers and instructors.