

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1690

H.P. 1179

House of Representatives, March 4, 1999

An Act Regulating the Transportation of People and Dogs in Pickup Trucks.

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 BRUNO of Raymond.
Cosponsored by Representative GOOLEY of Farmington, Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and
Representative: MURPHY of Berwick.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §§2085 and 2086** are enacted to read:

6 **§2085. Passengers restricted to passenger compartment of pickup truck**

8 **1. Passengers under 19 years of age. When a passenger under 19 years of age is transported in a pickup truck, that passenger must ride in the passenger compartment of the pickup truck.**

12 **2. Exceptions. Subsection 1 does not apply to the following:**

16 **A. Passengers in a truck camper;**

18 **B. Passengers in a pickup truck being used for agricultural purposes;**

20 **C. Workers or trainees engaged in the necessary discharge of their duties or training or being transported between work or training locations;**

24 **D. Participants in parades; or**

26 **E. A passenger secured by a seat belt in a manufacturer-installed seat located outside the passenger compartment.**

30 **§2086. Transporting dogs in pickup trucks regulated**

32 **Transporting dogs in pickup trucks is governed by this section.**

34 **1. Restrictions. A person driving a pickup truck may not transport a dog in the back of the vehicle on a public way unless:**

38 **A. The space is enclosed or has side and tail racks to a height of at least 46 inches extending vertically from the floor;**

40 **B. The dog is cross-tethered to the vehicle;**

42 **C. The dog is protected by a secured container or cage; or**

44 **D. The dog is otherwise protected in a manner that prevents the dog from falling or jumping or being thrown from the vehicle.**

2 2. Exceptions. Notwithstanding subsection 1, this section
3 does not apply to:

4 A. A dog being transported by a farmer or a farm employee
5 who is engaged in agricultural activities requiring the
6 services of a dog; or

7 B. A hunting dog at a hunting site or being transported
8 between hunting sites by a licensed hunter who is in
9 possession of all applicable licenses and permits for the
10 species being pursued during the legal season for that
11 activity.

14 SUMMARY

15 This bill regulates the transportation of people and dogs in
16 pickup trucks to ensure the safety of the passengers and
17 animals. The bill restricts a person under 19 years of age to
18 riding in the passenger compartment of a pickup truck, except
19 that certain passengers are exempt from this restriction.
20

21 The bill imposes certain conditions and restrictions on the
22 transportation of dogs in pickup trucks with certain specific
23 exemptions. By operation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
24 29-A, section 104, a violation of either of these new provisions
25 is a traffic infraction.
26