

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 2064

H.P. 1443

House of Representatives, March 30, 1999

An Act to Increase Load Weight on Farm Vehicles.

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 O'NEAL of Limestone.
Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, DESMOND of Mapleton,
DUNCAN of Presque Isle, KNEELAND of Easton, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SIROIS of
Caribou, WHEELER of Bridgewater, WHEELER of Eliot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §505, sub-§2, ¶¶R to U** are enacted to read:

4 R. For gross weight from 54,001 to 58,000 pounds, the fee
6 is \$378.

8 S. For gross weight from 58,001 to 62,000 pounds, the fee
10 is \$401.

12 T. For gross weight from 62,001 to 66,000 pounds, the fee
14 is \$424.

16 U. For gross weight from 66,001 to 69,000 pounds, the fee
18 is \$467.

20 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §505, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683,
22 Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

24 **3. Maximum weight.** The maximum registered weight of a farm
26 truck is ~~54,000~~ 69,000 pounds, including product. The fine for
28 exceeding the registered gross weight of a farm truck is the
30 difference between the fee for a farm truck and a commercially
32 registered truck or truck tractor within the category of the
34 actual weight at the time of the violation.

36 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §505, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

38 **9. Seasonal axle exemption.** Notwithstanding the axle
40 weight limits imposed pursuant to chapter 21, subchapter I, the
42 axle weight limits for farm vehicles must be waived annually for
44 a period of time not to exceed 6 weeks to coincide with the
46 potato harvest season. The Commissioner of Transportation, in
48 consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural
 Resources, shall annually determine the dates during which the
 axle weight of farm trucks is not enforced but gross weight
 restrictions are enforced.

SUMMARY

 This bill increases the maximum gross weight of farm trucks
to 69,000 pounds.

 This bill also requires the Commissioner of Transportation
and Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
annually to establish a period coinciding with the potato harvest
season during which the axle weight restrictions on farm trucks
are waived.