

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 411

H.P. 321

House of Representatives, February 1, 2001

**An Act to Enforce the Speed Limit at Toll Plaza Approaches on the
Maine Turnpike.**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BOUFFARD of Lewiston, WHEELER of Eliot.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1980, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 595, §3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6 **1. Violation of published rules; fines; imprisonment.**
8 Except as provided in subsections 1-A and 1-B, a violation of
10 published rules relating to the turnpike or its use or services
12 is a traffic infraction and is punishable by a fine of not more
14 than \$250. Any failure or neglect to pay tolls, fares or charges
16 for use of the turnpike is a crime punishable by a fine of not
18 more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or
20 by both. This section may not be construed to prevent the
22 authority from collecting payment for use of the turnpike or any
24 other service in connection with the turnpike by action at law or
26 in equity.

18 **Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1980, sub-§§1-A and 1-B** are enacted to read:

20 **1-A. Violation of toll plaza speed limit.** Notwithstanding
22 subsection 1 and except as provided in subsection 1-B, a person
24 who operates a motor vehicle in excess of the speed limit
26 established by the authority at a toll plaza or an approach to a
28 toll plaza commits a civil violation. A law enforcement officer
30 stopping a vehicle for a violation of this subsection shall
32 record that person's license number, address and any other
34 information the officer determines appropriate and forward this
36 information to the authority. Upon receipt of the information
38 regarding the person who operates a motor vehicle in excess of
40 the speed limit established by the authority at a toll plaza or
42 an approach to a toll plaza, the authority must take one of the
44 following actions:

34 A. For the first violation, the authority shall issue a
36 written warning letter to the person;

38 B. For the 2nd violation, the authority shall assess the
40 person a civil penalty of \$50; and

42 C. For a 3rd or subsequent violation, the authority shall
44 assess the person a civil penalty of \$100.

44 **1-B. Criminal speed.** Notwithstanding subsections 1 and
46 1-A, a person who operates a motor vehicle at a speed that
48 exceeds, by 30 miles an hour or more, the speed fixed by the
50 authority is guilty of a crime punishable by a fine of not less
52 than \$50 nor more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than
54 30 days, or by both.

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SUMMARY

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This bill establishes a civil violation schedule for persons who exceed the speed limit established by the Maine Turnpike Authority at toll plazas or approaches to toll plazas.

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