

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 843

H.P. 643

House of Representatives, February 15, 2001

**An Act to Clarify when Reduced Speed Limits are in Effect in School  
Zones.**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative MICHAUD of Fort Kent.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOUFFARD of Lewiston, COLLINS of Wells, COTE of  
Lewiston, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, PARADIS of Frenchville, Senator: MARTIN of  
Aroostook.

2           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** in order to assist motor vehicle operators in  
determining when school zone speed limits are in effect and  
thereby ensure the safety of children around school, it is  
8 necessary that this bill take effect prior to the beginning of  
the school year; and

10  
12           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
14 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore,

16  
18           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

20           **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2074, sub-§1, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed and the  
following enacted in its place:

22           A. Fifteen miles per hour when passing a school:

24                   (1) During recess;

26                   (2) While children are going to or leaving school  
28                   during opening or closing hours;

30                   (3) When indicated by posted signs or flashing light  
32                   signs erected for the purpose of regulating speed; or

34                   (4) At times and places as designated by the  
Department of Transportation or municipal ordinance;

36           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

38  
40   **SUMMARY**

42           This bill requires a maximum rate of 15 miles per hour in a  
school zone when there are signs present indicating that the 15  
44 miles per hour speed limit is in effect or as designated by the  
Department of Transportation or municipal ordinance.