

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 464

H.P. 356

House of Representatives, February 4, 2003

An Act To Allow Fire and Emergency Medical Services Response Vehicles To Display One Blue Light at the Rear of the Vehicle

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator SAVAGE of Knox and
Representatives: ANDREWS of York, BUNKER of Kossuth Township, DUGAY of
Cherryfield, MARLEY of Portland, McNEIL of Rockland, RINES of Wiscasset, STONE of
Berwick, USHER of Westbrook.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§2, ¶D**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

6 D. Emergency lights used on a police vehicle; a Department
8 of Corrections vehicle as described in subsection 1,
10 paragraph B, subparagraph (6); a vehicle operated by a chief
12 of police, a sheriff or a deputy sheriff; and a vehicle
14 operated by a qualified deputy sheriff or other qualified
16 individual performing court security-related functions and
18 services must emit a blue light or a combination of blue and
20 white light. ~~No other vehicle may be equipped with or
22 display a blue light, except that on~~ On any vehicle, or
24 replica of a vehicle, manufactured prior to 1952 and
26 registered under section 457, the taillight may contain a
28 blue or purple insert of not more than one inch in diameter.

20 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§2, ¶F**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 22, §1, is further amended to read:

22 F. Only vehicles listed in this paragraph, rural mail
24 vehicles as provided in paragraph C, subparagraph (5) and
26 school buses may be equipped with, display or use a red
28 auxiliary or emergency light.

30 (1) Emergency lights used on an ambulance, an
32 emergency medical service vehicle, a fire department
34 vehicle, a fire vehicle or a hazardous material
36 response vehicle must emit a red light or a combination
38 of red and white light and may be equipped with one
40 blue light mounted at the rear of the vehicle so that
42 the light is visible to approaching traffic.

44 (2) The municipal officers or a municipal official
46 designated by the municipal officers, with the approval
48 of the fire chief, may authorize an active member of a
50 municipal or volunteer fire department to use a
flashing red signal light not more than 5 inches in
diameter on a vehicle. The light may be displayed but
may be used only while the member is en route to or at
the scene of a fire or other emergency. The light must
be mounted as near as practicable above the
registration plate on the front of the vehicle or on
the dashboard. A light mounted on the dashboard must
be shielded so that the emitted light does not
interfere with the operator's vision.

50 (3) Members of an emergency medical service licensed
by Maine Emergency Medical Services may display and use

2 on a vehicle a flashing red signal light of the same
3 proportion, in the same location and under the same
4 conditions as those permitted municipal and volunteer
5 firefighters, when authorized by the chief official of
6 the emergency medical service.

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SUMMARY

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This bill allows a blue light to be mounted at the rear of
authorized emergency vehicles.

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