

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1565

H.P. 1147

House of Representatives, April 14, 2003

**An Act To Authorize a Pilot Project To Allow Commercial Vehicles
at Canadian Weight Limits Access to the Woodland Commercial
Park in Baileyville**

Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative USHER of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Senator SHOREY of Washington and
Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, DUGAY of Cherryfield, GOODWIN of
Pembroke, Senator: HATCH of Somerset.

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2354-A is enacted to read:

§2354-A. Pilot project to allow commercial vehicles at Canadian weight limits access to Woodland Commercial Park in Baileyville

1. Pilot project. Notwithstanding section 2354, the Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety and the Department of the Secretary of State, is authorized to conduct a pilot project that allows certain commercial vehicles at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits to travel from the planned Calais - St. Stephen, New Brunswick bridge to the junction of U.S. Route 1 and U.S. Route 9 in Baileyville. This pilot project must include the following conditions and components.

A. The new bridge and access road must be open to all traffic, with the only allowable route of travel under the pilot project being from the United States-Canada border to the intersection of the access road and U.S. Route 1 and then westerly on U.S. Route 1 to the intersection of U.S. Route 1 and U.S. Route 9 in Baileyville.

B. Allowable truck configurations under this pilot project must be limited to:

(1) A 3-axle truck tractor with a 3-axle semitrailer at a gross vehicle weight of 108,900 pounds; and

(2) A 3-axle truck tractor with a semitrailer-semitrailer combination, configured as a B-train double with 8 axles total, at a gross vehicle weight of 137,700 pounds. The weight of the 2nd semitrailer may not exceed the weight of the first semitrailer.

C. Maine axle weight limits, axle group limits, commodity allowances, maximum dimensions and all other commercial vehicle limits and requirements must apply under the pilot project, except that the B-train double overall length limit must be 82.02 feet, or 25 meters.

D. The manufacturer's ratings for gross vehicle weight, axle capacity, brake systems and other components for which a manufacturer's rating is available may not be exceeded under the pilot project.

2 E. Each truck combination under the pilot project must
3 display decals obtained for a fee from the Secretary of
4 State, one on each side of the tractor unit. The fee must
5 be established by the Commissioner of Transportation in an
6 amount to cover related administrative costs, compliance
7 monitoring and the additional cost of highway damage
8 resulting from the pilot project, calculated using accepted
9 engineering practices.

10 F. The Commissioner of Transportation may revoke the
11 privileges under the pilot project of participating trucks
12 and trucking companies for cause, including repeatedly
13 exceeding size and weight limits or operating outside the
14 designated route of travel. Revocation by the Commissioner
15 of Transportation is considered a final agency action.

16 2. Definition. As used in this section, unless the context
17 otherwise indicates, "B-train double" means a truck
18 tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination vehicle in which the
19 2 trailing units are connected with a B-train assembly. The
20 B-train assembly is a rigid frame extension attached to the rear
21 frame of a first semitrailer that allows for a 5th wheel
22 connection point for a 2nd semitrailer. This combination has one
23 less articulation point than the conventional A-dolly-connected
24 truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination.

25 3. Report. The Commissioner of Transportation shall submit
26 a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
27 having jurisdiction over transportation matters for presentation
28 to the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. The
29 report must include the status of the pilot project and
30 recommendations for continuance, discontinuance or modification
31 of the pilot project's terms.

32 4. Repeal. This section is repealed December 31, 2012.

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38 **SUMMARY**

39 40 This bill authorizes a pilot project to allow certain
40 commercial vehicle configurations at Canadian weight limits
41 access via the U.S. Route 1 corridor from the planned Calais -
42 St. Stephen Bridge to the Woodland Commercial Park in
43 Baileyville.
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