

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 418

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H.P. 303

House of Representatives, January 27, 2005

### **An Act To Exempt Certain Tires from the Speed Rating Requirements**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative SMITH of Monmouth.

Cosponsored by Representatives: COLLINS of Wells, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, SAMPSON of Auburn.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1917, sub-§1, ¶C** is enacted to read:

6 C. "Snow tire" means a tire with deep tread to give  
8 traction in snow that contains on at least one sidewall of  
10 the tire a permanent label including the words "mud" and  
12 "snow" or an abbreviation using the letters "M" and "S."

14 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1917, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2003, c.  
16 146, §1, is further amended to read:

18 **2. Safe tires required.** A motor vehicle may not be  
20 operated on a public way unless it is equipped with tires in safe  
22 operating condition. A tire mounted on a motor vehicle is not  
24 considered to be in safe operating condition unless it meets the  
26 visual and tread depth requirements set forth in subsections 3  
28 and 4 and the wheel size requirements in subsection 6. A vehicle  
30 may be equipped only with tires that meet or exceed the load and  
32 speed rating of the manufacturer's original equipment tires  
34 specifications, except as follows.

A. A vehicle may be equipped with tires that do not meet  
the speed rating of the original equipment tires if the  
tires were purchased on or before September 13, 2003.

B. A vehicle may be equipped with snow tires that do not  
meet the speed rating of the original equipment tires.

30 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill exempts motor vehicle tires purchased on or before  
34 September 13, 2003 and motor vehicle snow tires from speed rating  
requirements.