



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 1702

H.P. 1209

House of Representatives, December 20, 2005

An Act To Increase Efficiency in Truck Hauling

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 14, 2005. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Mullicent M. Mac Jarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative CARR of Lincoln. Cosponsored by Senator RAYE of Washington and Representatives: JODREY of Bethel, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, McKENNEY of Cumberland. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, to keep Maine truck drivers competitive and
employed during the winter and spring seasons, this issue of restricting the use of larger trailers to haul certain products
must be resolved before the end of the legislative session; and

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

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

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18 Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2390, sub-§1, ¶K is enacted to read:

20 K. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a full trailer or semitrailer transporting sawdust, wood shavings or wood chips whose structural length exceeds 48 22 feet but does not exceed 53 feet may be operated in combination with a truck tractor if the overall length of 24 the combination of truck tractor and full trailer or semitrailer does not exceed 74 feet, including all 26 structural parts of the vehicle, permanent or temporary. The wheelbase of a trailer or semitrailer exceeding 48 feet 28 must be the same as that of a trailer or semitrailer whose structural length is 48 feet. 30

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

SUMMARY

38 This bill increases the length limit of trailers and semitrailers hauling sawdust, shavings or wood chips from 48 40 feet to 53 feet, as long as the overall length does not exceed 74 feet when combined with the truck. The wheelbase axle distance 42 must remain the same as that of a 48-foot trailer or semitrailer.