

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 23

S.P. 17

In Senate, January 3, 2007

An Act To Clarify the Use and Purpose of Center Turn Lanes

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVAGE of Knox.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2051, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 653, §7, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **2. Two-way lane.** On a public way that is divided into ~~3~~ more than 2 lanes and
5 ~~provides one of those lanes provides~~ for 2-way movement of traffic, a vehicle may not be
6 operated in ~~the center~~ that lane except:

7 A. When overtaking and passing another vehicle when the way is clearly visible
8 and the ~~center~~ 2-way traffic lane is clear of traffic for a safe distance, unless an
9 official sign or traffic control device limits the use of ~~the center~~ that lane to turning
10 only;

11 B. In preparation for a left turn from the 2-way traffic lane; ~~or~~

12 C. ~~Where~~ When the ~~center~~ 2-way traffic lane is at the time allocated exclusively to
13 traffic moving in the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is posted to give notice
14 of that allocation; or

15 D. As part of a 2-part turn when the vehicle turning left from a driveway or entrance
16 uses the 2-way traffic lane until the travel lane in the direction the vehicle is
17 proceeding can be entered safely by the vehicle.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill clarifies the intent of and proper use of a 2-way traffic lane to allow a
20 motorist to turn safely onto a public way from an entrance or driveway.