

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 992

H.P. 684

House of Representatives, March 12, 2009

An Act To Increase Highway Safety by Requiring Daytime Headlight Use

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Representative McCABE of Skowhegan, Senator GERZOFKY of
Cumberland and Representatives: BECK of Waterville, CLEARY of Houlton, CROCKETT of
Bethel, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, PENDLETON of Scarborough, SCHATZ of Blue Hill,
SHAW of Standish.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2067, sub-§1, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1997, c. 249, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 B. At any time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions,
5 including, but not limited to, rain, freezing rain, fog or snow, persons or vehicles on
6 the way are not discernible for a distance of 1,000 feet ahead; ~~and~~

7 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2067, sub-§1, ¶C,** as enacted by PL 1997, c. 249, §1, is
8 amended to read:

9 C. At any time when windshield wipers are in constant use; and

10 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2067, sub-§1, ¶D** is enacted to read:

11 D. While the vehicle is operated on a way, for a vehicle manufactured after 2010.

12 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §2067, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

13 **4. Enforcement. A violation of subsection 1, paragraph D is a traffic infraction.**
14 **The fine for a violation of subsection 1, paragraph D is \$25.**

15 Subsection 1, paragraph D may be enforced only if a law enforcement officer has
16 detained the operator of a motor vehicle for suspected violation of another law. An
17 operator is not subject to the penalty established in this subsection unless the operator is
18 required to pay a fine for the primary violation.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires that the driver of a motor vehicle manufactured after 2010 use
21 headlights any time the motor vehicle is operated on a way. The bill also adds a
22 provision allowing enforcement of the mandatory headlights provision only when a
23 vehicle is stopped for a suspected violation of another law.