

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 1355

S.P. 490

In Senate, April 2, 2009

**An Act To Make Permanent the Allowance of Certain Commercial
Vehicles between the Calais Border Crossing and Baileyville**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RAYE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais and
Representatives: AYOTTE of Caswell, BURNS of Whiting, MARTIN of Eagle Lake,
McFADDEN of Dennysville, SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, THERIAULT of
Madawaska, TILTON of Harrington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2354-B, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 421, §1 and
3 affected by §2, is amended to read:

4 **5. Repeal.** This section is repealed December 31, ~~2010~~ 2009.

5 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2354-C** is enacted to read:

6 **§2354-C. Allow certain commercial vehicles at Canadian weight limits to travel**
7 **from the Canadian border at Calais to Baileyville and from the Canadian**
8 **border at Van Buren to a rail yard in Van Buren**

9 **1. Canadian gross vehicle weight limits.** Notwithstanding section 2354, the
10 Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety
11 and the Department of the Secretary of State, is authorized to allow certain commercial
12 vehicles at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits to travel from the Canadian border at
13 Calais to Baileyville and from the Canadian border at Van Buren to a rail yard in Van
14 Buren. Vehicles are allowed to travel from the Canadian border under the following
15 conditions.

16 A. The only allowable routes of travel are from the United States-Canada border in
17 Calais, approximately 1/4 mile south of the intersection of U.S. Route 1 and Route
18 214, north on U.S. Route 1 to Access Road in Baileyville, east on Access Road to
19 Domtar Woodland Mill or its successor on Main Street and north on Main Street to
20 the Louisiana-Pacific Oriented Strand Board mill or its successor in Baileyville; and
21 from the United States-Canada border in Van Buren on Bridge Street, east into the
22 rail yard in Van Buren, located approximately 2/10 of one mile from the border.

23 B. Allowable truck configuration is limited to:

24 (1) A 3-axle truck tractor with a 3-axle semitrailer at a gross vehicle weight of
25 108,900 pounds; and

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

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

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

36 E. Each truck combination must display a credential obtained for a fee from the
37 Secretary of State. The fee must be established by the Commissioner of
38 Transportation in an amount to cover related administrative costs, compliance
39 monitoring and the additional cost of highway damage resulting from certain
40 commercial vehicles at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits traveling from the

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Canadian border at Calais to Baileyville and from the Canadian border at Van Buren to a rail yard in Van Buren, calculated using accepted engineering practices. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to implement this paragraph in consultation with the Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

F. The Commissioner of Transportation may revoke the privileges of trucks and trucking companies for cause, including repeatedly exceeding size and weight limits or operating outside the designated route of travel. Revocation by the Commissioner of Transportation is considered a final agency action.

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

SUMMARY

This bill makes permanent the allowance of commercial vehicles at Canadian weight limits to travel from the Canadian border at Calais to Baileyville and from the Canadian border at Van Buren to a rail yard in Van Buren.