MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2010

Legislative Document

No. 1503

S.P. 581

In Senate, December 8, 2009

An Act To Establish Emergency Zones on Public Ways To Minimize Accidents

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

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 8, 2009. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TRAHAN of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Senators: McCORMICK of Kennebec, NASS of York, SIMPSON of Androscoggin, Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, BURNS of Whiting, HILL of York, McLEOD of Lee.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2075, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:
3	2-A. Emergency zone. The Commissioner of Transportation may restrict the speed
4	limit on a public way in an emergency zone and the Executive Director of the Maine
5	Turnpike Authority may restrict the speed limit on any portion of the turnpike in an
6	emergency zone when a lower rate of speed would minimize the danger of an accident.
7	A person may not operate a motor vehicle in excess of these speeds, as long as notice of
8	the maximum speed has been given by standard black and white speed limit signs on the
9	public way. Signs erected pursuant to this subsection must be covered or removed during
10	hours when the speed limit is not restricted pursuant to this subsection.
11	The penalty for a violation of this subsection is a fine equal to twice the amount of the
12	fine designated in accordance with Title 4, section 164, subsection 12 for a similar
13	speeding violation under section 2073.
14	For purposes of this subsection, "emergency zone" means an area where a traffic
15	accident, a serious incident caused by weather conditions or another occurrence along a
16	public way has occurred for which a police officer, a firefighter or emergency medica
17	personnel are summoned to aid an injured victim.
18	SUMMARY
19	This bill defines emergency zones and allows the Commissioner of Transportation
20	and the Executive Director of the Maine Turnpike Authority to lower the speed limit in
21	those areas. Fines are doubled if a person violates this provision of law.