

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 434

H.P. 314

House of Representatives, February 7, 2017

**An Act To Allow Certain Vehicles To Make a Right Turn on a Red
Light Even When Prohibited**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BATTLE of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, HARRINGTON of Sanford, KINNEY of Limington,
KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, ORDWAY of Standish, TIMBERLAKE
of Turner, TURNER of Burlington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2057, sub-§1, ¶C**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
3 452, Pt. Q, §36 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is amended to read:

4 C. ~~A~~ Except as provided by paragraph C-3, a red light, if steady and circular, means:

5 (1) The operator must stop and remain stationary until an indication to proceed is
6 shown; or

7 (2) The operator may cautiously enter the intersection to make a right turn after
8 stopping if:

9 (a) Not prohibited by an appropriate sign such as "NO RIGHT TURN ON
10 RED"; and

11 (b) The operator executing a turn yields the right-of-way to pedestrians on a
12 crosswalk and to a vehicle having a green signal at the intersection.

13 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2057, sub-§1, ¶C-3** is enacted to read:

14 C-3. Notwithstanding paragraph C, the operator of a lightweight vehicle facing a red
15 light, if steady and circular, after stopping for a reasonable amount of time may
16 proceed cautiously through the intersection before the light on the traffic-control
17 device turns green if no other vehicles are present at the intersection to actuate the
18 traffic-control device. The operator of a lightweight vehicle proceeding through a red
19 light under this paragraph shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicular traffic
20 proceeding through a green light at the intersection or a pedestrian lawfully within a
21 crosswalk or using the intersection. For the purposes of this paragraph, "lightweight
22 vehicle" means a motorcycle, moped or bicycle, as defined in section 2063,
23 subsection 1, or any other motor vehicle not heavy enough to actuate a traffic-control
24 device sensor.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill allows the operator of a lightweight vehicle facing a steady and circular red
27 light, after stopping for a reasonable amount of time, to proceed cautiously through the
28 intersection before the light on the traffic-control device turns green if no other vehicles
29 are present at the intersection to actuate the traffic-control device. "Lightweight vehicle"
30 means a motorcycle, moped or bicycle, including a motorized bicycle, motorized tricycle
31 or motorized scooter or a motor vehicle not heavy enough to actuate a traffic-control
32 device sensor.