

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4/14/17

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 346, L.D. 483, Bill, "An Act To Improve Enforcement of Snowmobile Noise Levels"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §13106-A, sub-§14, as amended by PL 2009, c. 340, §20, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §13106-A, sub-§14-A is enacted to read:

14-A. Snowmobile noise requirements. This subsection governs noise level requirements for snowmobiles.

A. Except as provided in section 13112, a person may not:

(1) Operate a snowmobile manufactured after February 1, 2007 that does not display on its exhaust silencer a visible, unaltered certification marking issued by an independent organization that certifies snowmobiles for uniformity of safety features and noise levels;

(2) Operate a snowmobile manufactured after October 1, 1985 that emits total vehicle noise greater than 78 decibels of sound pressure level at 50 feet on the "A" scale, as measured by the SAE standards J-192; or

(3) Operate a snowmobile with an exhaust system that has been modified in a manner that amplifies or otherwise increases total noise emission above that of the snowmobile as originally constructed, regardless of the date of manufacture.

A snowmobile manufactured on or before October 1, 1973 is not subject to a specific noise level, except that a person may not operate a snowmobile modified in violation of subparagraph (3).

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §13112, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §400 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

§13112. Racing meets

Notwithstanding section 10650 and section 13106-A, subsections ~~14~~ 14-A, 15 and 16, snowmobiles operated at a prearranged racing meet whose sponsor has obtained a permit to hold such a meet from the commissioner are exempt from the provisions of this chapter concerning registration, noise, horsepower and lights during the time of operation at such meets and at all prerace practices at the location of the meet.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment provides that a person may not operate a snowmobile manufactured after February 1, 2007 unless the snowmobile has a visible and unaltered certification marking issued by an independent organization that certifies snowmobiles for uniformity of safety features and noise levels on the snowmobile's exhaust silencer. The amendment provides that a person may not operate a snowmobile manufactured after October 1, 1985 that emits total vehicle noise greater than 78 decibels.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 483

LR 1450(02)

An Act To Improve Enforcement of Snowmobile Noise Levels

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A(H-48)

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

Establishes new Class E crimes and civil violations.

The collection of additional fines may also increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as a result of changes to laws governing snowmobile noise limits, measurement of noise limits and modifications to snowmobile exhausts are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.