

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 977

H.P. 690

House of Representatives, March 9, 2017

**An Act To Allow a Motorist To Make a Left Turn at a Red Light
under Certain Conditions**

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 THERIAULT of China.
Cosponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland and
Representatives: PIERCE of Dresden, SEAVEY of Kennebunkport, WARD of Dedham.

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2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2057, sub-§1, ¶C**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.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 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" or "NO TURN ON 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; ~~or~~

13 (3) The operator may cautiously enter the intersection to make a left turn after
14 stopping if:

15 (a) Not prohibited by an appropriate sign such as "NO LEFT TURN ON
16 RED" or "NO TURN ON RED"; and

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

19 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2057, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and
20 affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

21 **2. Basis for prohibiting turn.** A municipality or the Department of Transportation,
22 in determining whether to prohibit a right turn or a left turn on a red light, must consider
23 at least the following factors:

24 A. The proximity to that light of schools, fire stations, residences or institutions for
25 the blind;

26 B. The number of pedestrians using the intersection; and

27 C. The complexity of the intersection.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill allows a motor vehicle operator to make a left turn at a red light after
30 stopping if not prohibited by a sign such as "NO LEFT TURN ON RED" or "NO TURN
31 ON RED" and the operator yields the right-of-way to pedestrians on a crosswalk and to a
32 vehicle having a green signal at the intersection.