

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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House Document

No. 567

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H. P. 1553      House of Representatives, March 1, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hathaway of Milo.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

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AN ACT Relating to a Green Light on Motor Vehicles Over  
Seven Feet in Width.

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

Section sixty-eight of chapter two hundred and eleven  
2 of the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-one as  
3 amended, is hereby further amended by adding at the end  
4 thereof the following: 'Every motor vehicle of more than  
5 seven feet or more in width shall have on the front thereof  
6 at a point at least two feet above the level of the steering  
7 wheel of such vehicle and to the extreme left of the axis  
8 thereof, one lamp capable of displaying a green light visible  
9 for a distance of at least two hundred feet directly ahead

10 of such vehicle,' so that said section as amended shall read  
11 as follows:

'Sect. 68. Every motor vehicle and tractor on wheels  
2 shall be equipped with lamps and lights as provided in this  
3 act, of sufficient power and so adjusted and operated as to  
4 enable its operator to proceed with safety to himself and  
5 to other users of the ways under all ordinary conditions  
6 of highway and weather. Said lamps and lights shall con-  
7 form to and operate in accordance with the rules and reg-  
8 ulations promulgated from time to time by the secretary.  
9 as provided in this act, and shall be lighted during the period  
10 from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before  
11 sunrise; except as provided in section sixty-nine.

Every motor vehicle and tractor on wheels, other than a  
2 motorcycle, shall have mounted on the front thereof a pair  
3 of lamps, one on the right side and one on the left side  
4 each of approximately equal candlepower; and every motor-  
5 cycle shall have mounted on the front thereof one lamp.  
6 If any such vehicle is so mechanically constructed, governed  
7 or controlled that it cannot exceed a speed of fifteen miles  
8 per hour, it shall have front lamps capable of furnishing  
9 light of sufficient candlepower to render any substantial  
10 object clearly discernible on a level way at least fifty feet  
11 directly ahead and at the same time at least seven feet to  
12 the right of the axis of such vehicle for a distance of at  
13 least twenty-five feet. If said vehicles can exceed a speed  
14 of fifteen miles per hour, then they shall have front lamps

15 capable of furnishing light of sufficient candlepower to  
16 render any substantial object clearly discernible on a level  
17 way at least two hundred feet directly ahead and at the  
18 same time at least seven feet to the right of the axis of  
19 such vehicle for a distance of at least one hundred feet;  
20 provided that no front lamp capable of furnishing more  
21 than four candlepower light shall be used if equipped with  
22 a reflector, unless so designed, equipped or mounted that  
23 no portion of the beam of light when projected seventy-  
24 five feet or more ahead of the lamps shall rise above a  
25 plane forty-two inches higher than and parallel with the  
26 level surface on which the vehicle stands; and provided,  
27 further, that, at no time, shall the top of any main beam  
28 of light be higher than the headlight centers; and provided,  
29 further, that no electric bulb or other lighting device of a  
30 greater capacity than thirty-two candlepower shall be used,  
31 no matter how the same may be shaded, covered or ob-  
32 scured. For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of  
33 this section, it shall be deemed to be a violation of its pro-  
34 visions if a front light or front lights of a motor vehicle  
35 projects the top of any main beam, at a distance of twenty-  
36 five feet ahead of the motor vehicle, on an approximately  
37 level stretch of highway, onto the body of a person or on  
38 a motor vehicle or any object, at a height greater than the  
39 distance of the centers of the front lights from the high-  
40 way.

Every trailer, when operated at night shall carry at the

2 front of its left side one lamp capable of throwing a white  
3 light visible from both sides of such vehicle; excepting,  
4 however, small two-wheel trailers of one thousand pounds  
5 capacity or less, towed closely behind a motor vehicle, whose  
6 overall length, including towing vehicle and load, does not  
7 exceed thirty feet.

Every such motor vehicle, tractor and trailer shall have  
2 on the rear thereof, and to the left of the axis thereof,  
3 one lamp capable of displaying a red light visible for a dis-  
4 tance of at least one hundred feet behind such vehicle; pro-  
5 vided that when a vehicle is used in conjunction with an-  
6 other vehicle or vehicles, only the last of such vehicles shall  
7 be required to carry such lamp. Every such motor vehicle,  
8 tractor and trailer shall carry a lamp illuminating with  
9 white light the rear registration plate of such vehicle so  
10 that the characters thereon shall be visible for a distance  
11 of at least fifty feet.

Every motor vehicle of more than seven feet or more in  
2 width shall have on the front thereof at a point at least  
3 two feet above the level of the steering wheel of such vehicle  
4 and to the extreme left of the axis thereof, one lamp capable  
5 of displaying a green light visible for a distance of at least  
6 two hundred feet directly ahead of such vehicle.'