

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 380**

H. P. 931

House of Representatives, February 4, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Motor Vehicles, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hobbs of Acton.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Relating to Motor Driven Cycles.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 19, § 1, amended.** Section 1 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“**Motor driven cycle**” shall mean every motor-cycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor which produces not to exceed 5 horsepower, and every bicycle with motor attached.’

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 19, § 32, amended.** The first sentence of section 32 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘Every motor vehicle and every motor driven cycle shall be provided with adequate brakes in good working order and sufficient to control such vehicle at all times when the same is in use, and a suitable and adequate horn or other device for signalling.’

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 19, § 34, amended.** The 1st sentence of the 2nd paragraph of section 34 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘Every motor vehicle and tractor on wheels, other than a motor-cycle or motor driven cycle, shall have mounted on the front thereof a pair of lamps,

one on the right side and one on the left side, each of approximately equal candle-power; and every motor-cycle and every motor driven cycle shall have mounted on the front thereof 1 lamp.'

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 19, § 34, amended.** Section 34 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the 1st sentence thereof, a new sentence to read as follows:

**'Every headlamp, upon every motor vehicle, including every motor-cycle and motor driven cycle, shall be located at a height measured from the center of the headlamp of not more than 54 inches nor less than 28 inches above the level surface upon which said vehicle stands.'**

**Sec. 5. R. S., c. 19, § 34, amended.** The 4th paragraph of section 34 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Every such motor vehicle, **motor driven cycle**, tractor and trailer shall have on the rear thereof, and to the left of the axis thereof, 1 lamp capable of displaying a red light visible for a distance of at least 100 feet behind such vehicle; provided that when a vehicle is used in conjunction with another vehicle or vehicles, only the last of such vehicles shall be required to carry such lamp. Every such motor vehicle, **motor driven cycle**, tractor and trailer shall carry a lamp illuminating with white light the rear registration plate of such vehicle so that the characters thereon shall be visible for a distance of at least 50 feet.'

**Sec. 6. R. S., c. 19, § 34, amended.** The last 3 sentences of the 5th paragraph of section 34 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

'Every motor vehicle, **motor driven cycle** and every trailer shall be equipped with at least 1 adequate reflector securely attached to the rear thereof. Such reflector may be a part of the rear lamp, and shall in all cases be red. No reflector shall be deemed adequate unless it is so designed, located and maintained as to reflect at night on an unlighted highway, for at least 200 feet, the lawful undimmed headlights of a vehicle approaching from the rear thereof.'

**Sec. 7. R. S. c. 19, § 102, sub-§ I, amended.** Subsection I of section 102 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

**'No person shall operate any motor driven cycle at any time mentioned in section 112 at a speed greater than 35 miles per hour unless such motor**

**driven cycle is equipped with a headlamp or lamps which are adequate to reveal a person or vehicle at a distance of 300 feet ahead.'**

**Sec. 8. R. S., c. 19, § 102-B, amended.** The 3rd paragraph of section 102-B of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as enacted by chapter 169 of the public laws of 1947, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'The state highway commission may by resolution or order entered in its minutes and local authorities may by ordinance with respect to any limited-access roadway under their respective jurisdictions prohibit the use of any such roadway by pedestrians, bicycles or other non-motorized traffic **or by any person operating a motor driven cycle.'**