

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 91

H. P. 160

House of Representatives, January 18, 1951

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Perry of Chelsea.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Amount of Insurance for Certain Motor Vehicles.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 19, § 16, amended. Section 16 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 40 of the public laws of 1949, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 16. Motor vehicles carrying passengers for hire shall procure insurance. The secretary of state shall not register any motor vehicle used for livery or hire, except as provided in section 8 of chapter 44, or as a school bus, and no person, firm or corporation shall operate or cause to be operated upon any public highway in this state any such motor vehicle until the owner or owners thereof shall have procured insurance or a bond, having a surety company authorized to transact business in this state or 2 individuals as sureties thereon, in the amount of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 because of bodily injury or death to any one person, and subject to said limit respecting 1 person, in the amount of ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 because of bodily injury to or death to two or more persons in any 1 accident, and in the amount of ~~\$1,000~~ \$5,000 because of injury to and destruction of property in any 1 accident, which insurance or bond shall be approved by the secretary of state and shall indemnify the insured against any legal liability for personal injury, the death of any person, or property damage, which injury,

death or damage may result from or have been caused by the operation of the motor vehicle described in the contract of insurance or such bond.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 19, § 64, sub-§ I, ¶¶ G and H. Paragraphs G and H of subsection I of section 64 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

G. "Motor Vehicle Liability Policy," a policy of liability insurance which provides indemnity for or protection to the insured and any person responsible to him for the operation of the insured's motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer who has obtained possession or control thereof with his express or implied consent, against loss by reason of the liability to pay damages to others for damage to property, except property of others in charge of the insured or his employees, or bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, accidentally sustained during the term of said policy by any person other than the insured, or employees of the insured actually operating the motor vehicle or of such other person responsible as aforesaid who are entitled to payments or benefits under the provisions of any workmen's compensation act, arising out of the ownership, operation, maintenance, control or use within the limits of the United States of America or the Dominion of Canada of such motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, to the amount or limit of at least ~~\$5,000~~ **\$10,000** on account of injury to or death of any one person, and subject to such limits as respects injury to or death of 1 person, of at least ~~\$10,000~~ **\$20,000** on account of any one accident resulting in injury to or death of more than 1 person, and of at least ~~\$1,000~~ **\$5,000** for damage to property of others, as herein provided, or a binder pending the issue of such a policy, or an indorsement to an existing policy, as defined in subsections I, II, and IV of section 69.

H. "Motor Vehicle Liability Bond," a bond conforming to the provisions of subsection III of section 69 and conditioned that the obligor shall within 30 days after the rendition thereof satisfy all judgments rendered against him or against any person responsible to him for the operation of the obligor's motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer who has obtained possession or control thereof with his express or implied consent, in actions to recover damages for damage to property of others or bodily injuries, including death at any time resulting therefrom, accidentally sustained during the term of said bond by any person other than the insured employees of the obligor actually operating the motor vehicle or of such other person responsible as aforesaid who are entitled to payments or benefits under the provisions of any work-

men's compensation act, arising out of the ownership, operation, maintenance, control or use within the limits of the United States of America or the Dominion of Canada of such motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer, to the amount or limit of at least ~~\$1,000~~ \$5,000 on account of damage to property and at least ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 on account of injury to or death of any one person, and subject to such limits as respects injury to or death of one person, at least ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 on account of any one accident resulting in injury to or death of more than one person.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 19, § 67, sub-§§ I, II and III, amended. Subsections I, II and III of section 67 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

I. When ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of bodily injury to or death of 1 person as the result of any one accident; or

II. When, subject to such limit of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 because of bodily injury to or death of 1 person, the sum of ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons as the result of any one accident; or

III. When ~~\$1,000~~ \$5,000 has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of injury to or destruction of property of others as a result of any one accident.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 19, § 70, sub-§ I, amended. Subsection I of section 70 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

I. **Amount of proof required.** Proof of financial responsibility shall mean proof of ability to respond in damages for any liability thereafter incurred, arising out of the ownership, maintenance, control or use of a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer in the amount of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 because of bodily injury or death to any one person, and subject to said limit respecting 1 person, in the amount of ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 because of bodily injury to or death to two or more persons in any one accident, and in the amount of ~~\$1,000~~ \$5,000 because of injury to and destruction of property in any one accident. Whenever required under the provisions of sections 64 to 71, inclusive, such proof in such amounts shall be furnished for each motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer registered by such person.'