

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - E I G H T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 533

H. P. 403

House of Representatives, February 6, 1957.

Referred to Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Beyer of Cape Elizabeth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Revise Certain Motor Vehicle Laws.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 15, § 10, amended. Section 10 of chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 2 of chapter 88 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 10. Fees. The driver or owner of such vehicle shall pay to the officer in charge of such weighing point, station or barracks, or to the officer weighing such vehicle any deficiency, if any there may be, in the legal registration fee of such vehicle **or short-term permit for such vehicle** before it may be permitted to proceed. All deficiency fees so collected shall be reported to the Secretary of State, in such manner as he may require, and said fees shall be sent to him and special record kept thereof.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 13, amended. The 1st sentence of the 2nd paragraph of section 13 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 160 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated, or remain upon any way, unless the same is registered and equipped in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, excepting that any officer of the State Police may, when in his opinion the same is necessary and not detrimental to the public safety, grant a permit in writing for an unregistered **motor** vehicle to be towed either by a regular service wrecker or by the use of a towbar.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 22, § 16, sub-§ III, amended. The 3rd paragraph after ¶ C of subsection III of section 16 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Not more than ~~1~~ trailer shall be drawn by a motor vehicle. Only one trailer or semi-trailer shall be drawn by a motor vehicle.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 22, § 40, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 40 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'No person shall equip his vehicle with, use or sell, any lens, muffler, reflector or lighting device designed for use on vehicles on public ways contrary to the provisions of this chapter or contrary to the rules and regulations of the Secretary of State.'

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 22, § 43, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 43 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Every headlamp, upon every motor vehicle, including every motorcycle 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 ~~26~~ 22 inches above the level surface upon which said vehicle stands; provided, however, that headlamps. Headlamps on snow plows may be located at a height greater than 54 inches above said level surface. All such headlamps shall be equipped with lenses or reflectors that emit only a white beam of light. Said lamps and lights shall conform to and operate in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated from time to time by the Secretary of State, as provided in this chapter, and shall be lighted during the period from $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after sunset to $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before sunrise; except as provided in section 141.'

Sec. 6. R. S., c. 22, § 89, amended. The last paragraph of section 89 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby repealed and the following paragraph enacted in place thereof:

'Any person who operates a vehicle past a "yield right of way" sign, and collides or interferes with the movement of a vehicle or pedestrian proceeding on the intersecting street shall upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor.'

Sec. 7. R. S., c. 22, § 117, amended. The 3rd paragraph of section 117 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'The driver of a vehicle shall not overtake and pass any other vehicle proceeding in the same direction at any ~~steam or electric~~ railway grade crossing nor at any intersection of ways unless permitted to do so by a traffic or police officer.'

Sec. 8. R. S., c. 22, § 138, amended. Section 138 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 138. Trucks 15,000 pounds and over to carry flares. No person shall operate or cause to be operated upon the highways of the State any truck or truck tractor having a ~~gross weight~~ **registration** in excess of 15,000 pounds unless equipped with 2 red flags, and in addition thereto 3 flares, 3 red lanterns or 3 red emergency reflectors; except that in the case of vehicles used for

transportation of inflammable liquids or gas in bulk, such equipment shall consist of 2 red flags, and in addition thereto 3 red electric lanterns or 3 red emergency reflectors.'

Sec. 9. R. S., c. 22, § 139, amended. Section 139 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 139. Use of flares, lanterns and reflectors. Whenever any motor truck or truck tractor having a ~~gross weight registration~~ in excess of 15,000 pounds is disabled upon the traveled portion of the highway or shoulder next thereto, the operator thereof shall, during the time that lights are required, place 3 lighted flares or 3 red lanterns or 3 emergency reflectors on the roadway as follows: one flare or one lantern or one red emergency reflector in the center of the lane of traffic occupied by said disabled motor vehicle not less than 100 feet distant therefrom in the direction of traffic approaching in that lane, one flare or red lantern or one red emergency reflector not less than 100 feet from such vehicle in the center of said lane in the opposite direction and one flare or one red lantern or one red emergency reflector at the traffic side of such vehicle not closer than 10 feet from the front or rear thereof; except that if such vehicle shall be a vehicle used for the transportation of inflammable liquids or gas in bulk, only red electric lanterns or red emergency reflectors shall be placed as ~~above~~ provided. During such time as lights are not required, red flags shall be used in place of flares, lanterns or reflectors ~~as above specified~~, except that no flag shall be required to be placed at the side of the vehicle.'

Sec. 10. R. S., c. 22, § 139-A, amended. Section 139-A of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 256 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 139-A. Name of owner or lessee displayed. ~~All truck tractors~~ **Whoever operates or causes to be operated a truck tractor** shall display on both sides the name of the owner or lessee in letters not less than 2½ inches in height.'

Sec. 11. R. S., c. 22, § 150, amended. The 3rd sentence of section 150 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 322 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'The Court may admit evidence of the percentage by weight of alcohol in the defendant's blood at the time alleged, as shown by a chemical analysis of his breath, **blood or urine.**'

Sec. 12. R. S., c. 22, § 153, amended. The last paragraph of section 153 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Whoever while operating a vehicle ~~not lighted or equipped as required by~~ **in violation of** any of the provisions of this chapter shall fail or refuse when requested by an officer authorized to make arrests to give his correct name and address shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both ~~such fine and imprisonment.~~