

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1374**

H. P. 974

House of Representatives, March 21, 1957.

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and 750 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hersey of Fort Fairfield.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Creating a Highway Safety Committee.**

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

**R. S., c. 23, §§ 37-A - 37-F, additional.** Chapter 23 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 6 new sections to be numbered 37-A to 37-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

**‘Highway Safety Committee.**

**Sec. 37-A. Highway Safety Committee.** In recognition of the fact that safety on the public highways is a joint responsibility of public officials and private citizens and in recognition of the necessity for the State of Maine to stimulate active public support for highway safety measures originating at official sources or through citizen interest and concern, a Committee is hereby created.

**Sec. 37-B. Membership.** The Committee is authorized to open its membership to designated representatives of civic, service, religious, fraternal, trade, veterans, women’s, youth, farm, business, industry, insurance, labor, safety and other organizations, as well as to individual citizens, desiring to take an active part in the promotion of highway safety in the State of Maine.

**Sec. 37-C. Officers and executive committee.** The Governor shall biennially appoint an Executive Board of at least 18 from the membership of the Committee, said Executive Board to be representative of a cross-section of total committee membership. The Governor shall appoint a Chairman and the Executive Board shall appoint a Vice-Chairman and a secretary-treasurer. The Executive Board shall meet at the time of the annual meeting of the Committee, at least

quarterly in addition thereto and otherwise at the call of the Chairman. Members of the Executive Board shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 37-D. Ex-officio members. The heads of the following state departments or agencies, or their designated representatives, shall be ex-officio members of the Committee: Attorney General, Secretary of State, Department of Education, Highway Commission, State Police, Public Utilities Commission.

Sec. 37-E. Official coordination. The officials designated as ex-officio members of the Committee shall, in addition, constitute a coordinating committee of state officials for the purpose of jointly studying and recommending traffic safety programs and activities to the Committee.

Sec. 37-F. Powers and duties. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to:

I. Conduct an annual Governor's Highway Safety Conference which shall, as well, be the annual meeting of the Committee.

II. Develop, administer and promote highway safety programs throughout the State of Maine cooperating, insofar as possible, with national highway safety emphasis programs.

III. Study and recommend to the Legislature, after consultation with the coordinating committee of state officials, measures designed to reduce traffic accidents, effectively control drivers and vehicles and otherwise improve the safety record on the streets and highways of the State of Maine.

IV. Report, annually, on the progress of its programs and activities.'