

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 599

H. P. 415

House of Representatives, February 10, 1959

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Earles of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

**AN ACT Relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles on Highways Under
Construction.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 113-B, amended. The first paragraph of section 113-B of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 5 of chapter 317 of the public laws of 1957 and as amended by section 2 of chapter 423 of the public laws of 1957 is further amended to read as follows:

~~'Notwithstanding~~ **Except as provided in section 113-D and notwithstanding** the provisions of section 113, subsection II, the State Highway Commission, the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly, shall have authority to restrict the speed of all motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where in the opinion of the commission, the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly, a rate of speed less than that now authorized by law will minimize the danger of accident and in each such place shall fix the rate of speed in accordance with their own judgment. The State Highway Commission, the Secretary of State and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly, shall also have authority to increase the speeds of all motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where, in their opinion, higher speeds are warranted to promote the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, provided that such increased speed shall not exceed 60 miles per hour for pleasure vehicles and 50 miles per hour for commercial vehicles registered for over 6,000 pounds or school buses, conveying children to and from school or a school event.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 113-D, additional. Chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section to be numbered 113-D, as follows:

'Sec. 113-D. Speed limitations on highway under construction. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 113, subsection II and section 113-B, the State Highway Commission shall have authority to restrict the speed of all motor vehicles at any and all points on a highway under construction where in the opinion of the commission a rate of speed less than that now authorized by law will minimize the danger of accident and in each such place shall fix the rate of speed in accordance with its own judgment.

It shall be unlawful to drive in excess of such speeds as may be fixed pursuant to this section provided that notice of such changes in speed shall be given by signs which shall be erected by the commission and which appear on the highway. The presence of such signs on the highway shall be prima facie evidence that they were erected in accordance with this section, that they provide the notice required by this section and that the speeds indicated thereon were fixed in accordance with this section.'