

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Ninety-ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Ninety-eighth Legislature

At The

SPECIAL SESSIONS, OCTOBER 28-31, 1957,

JANUARY 13-16, 1958,

MAY 6-8, 1958

and the Chief of the State Police, acting jointly, shall have authority to restrict the speed of ~~either commercial or pleasure~~ 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 ~~either commercial or pleasure~~ 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. ~~Signs giving notice of such changes in speed shall be erected by the State Highway Commission.~~

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 State Highway 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.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the State Highway Commission shall not be required to erect speed signs on any town ways or unimproved state aid highways.'

Sec. 3. P. L., 1957, c. 317, § 7, repealed. Section 7 of chapter 317 of the public laws of 1957 is hereby repealed.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Effective October 31, 1957

Chapter 424

AN ACT Imposing a Tax on the Unorganized Territory Within the Maine Forestry District for Spruce Budworm Control.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment; and

Whereas, a severe outbreak of spruce budworm has developed in the forests of northern Maine, threatening the destruction of one of Maine's outstanding natural resources; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to control this outbreak so as to save thousands of acres of Maine forests within the unorganized territory located in the Maine Forestry District; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legis-

lation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 36, § 96, amended. Section 96 of chapter 36 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 287 of the public laws of 1957, is hereby further amended by adding after the first sentence, a new sentence, to read as follows:

'Such tax shall be increased by 1½ mills on the dollar assessed only for the year 1958 upon all the property in the unorganized territory located within the Maine Forestry District, including rights in public reserved lots, to be used by the Forestry Department for spruce budworm control.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Effective October 31, 1957

Chapter 425

AN ACT Relating to Definition of School Buses.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment; and

Whereas, the present definition of school bus has created uncertainty in interpretation and inability to enforce the law pertaining to school buses; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to prevent accidents involving school buses and thus protect the children traveling thereon; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 22, § 48, amended. The 1st sentence of section 48 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 85 of the public laws of 1955, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'The term "school bus" includes every motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency or private school and operated for the transportation of children to or from school, or to or from any school activities at a school regularly attended by such children, or privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school or to or from any school activities at a school regularly attended by such children; school as used in this sentence shall mean either a private or public school.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Effective October 31, 1957