

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
AS PASSED BY THE

**ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

**AND AT THE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
August 3, 1981

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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the  
ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

1981

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8. **After votes counted, ballots delivered to clerk.** After the ballot clerks have counted and tabulated the votes cast, the moderator shall deliver the ballots to the clerk who shall seal them in a suitable package and keep them in his office for 62 months.

Effective September 18, 1981

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## CHAPTER 87

S. P. 156 — L. D. 364

### AN ACT Pertaining to Election Officials.

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

21 MRSA § 532, sub-§ 2, first sentence is amended to read:

The municipal officers shall appoint 4 election clerks for each voting place in each municipality who must be residents of the ~~electoral divisions in which they are to~~ serve municipality.

Effective September 18, 1981

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## CHAPTER 88

H. P. 32 — L. D. 37

### AN ACT to Modify Certain Rules of the Road to Conform with the Uniform Vehicle Code.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 944-A, is enacted to read:

§ 944-A. **Right of way; highway construction and maintenance areas**

The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any authorized vehicle or person actually engaged in work upon a highway within any highway construction or maintenance area indicated by official traffic control devices.

The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any authorized vehicle obviously and actually engaged in work upon a highway whenever such vehicle

displays flashing lights meeting the requirements of section 1368, subsection 3 and section 1462.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 946-A, is enacted to read:

§ 946-A. Authorized emergency vehicles

1. Exercise of privileges. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to but not upon returning from an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions stated in this section.

2. Parking; proceeding past stop sign; exceeding speed limit. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

A. Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;

B. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

C. Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as he does not endanger life or property; and

D. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

3. Audible signals; visual signals. The exemptions granted in this section to an authorized emergency vehicle apply only when that vehicle is making use of an audible signal as required in sections 946 and 1362 and visual signals as required in sections 946 and 1368, except that an authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a special visual signal visible from in front of the vehicle.

4. Duty to drive with due regard for safety. The provisions of this section do not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor do these provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 994, sub-§ 2, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the left shall yield the right of way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 999, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 402, § 4, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

All motorcycles or motor driven cycles, other than mopeds, may fully use a lane and no motor vehicle may be driven in such a manner as to deprive any motorcycle of the full use of a lane.

The operator of a motorcycle or a motor driven cycle shall not overtake and pass in the lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken. This paragraph does not apply to a motorcyclist passing a bicycle nor to a police officer in the performance of his duties.

No person may operate a motorcycle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles. This paragraph does not apply to police officers in the performance of their duties.

Effective September 18, 1981

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## CHAPTER 89

### H. P. 297 — L. D. 327

#### AN ACT to Amend Current Law to Limit Additional Fees Charged to Handicapped Persons for Special Motor Vehicle License Plates that Display Handicapped Symbols.

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

**Sec. 1.** 29 MRSA § 252, first ¶, first sentence, as amended by PL 1979, c. 74, is further amended to read:

On annual application to the Secretary of State, ~~with the payment of \$1~~ any handicapped person or the spouse, parents or legal guardian of a handicapped person who has registered a motor vehicle as the motor vehicle of principal use by the handicapped person shall be issued a set of special designating plates to be used in place of the regular registration plates or placard to be fixed to the sun visor of a motor vehicle registered by such a person.

**Sec. 2.** 29 MRSA § 252, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1979, c. 74, is further amended by adding at the end 2 new sentences to read:

The annual registration fee is as set forth in this subchapter for the type of vehicle assigned the special designating plates or placard. A \$1 fee shall be charged in those cases where a placard is issued to a handicapped person who does not have a duly registered motor vehicle.

**Sec. 3.** 29 MRSA § 252-B is enacted to read:

§ 252-B. United States Medal of Honor recipients; special license plates