

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 7, 1994 to June 30, 1995

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
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PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1995

CHAPTER 390

H.P. 946 - L.D. 1335

**An Act to Amend Laws Pertaining to
On-premises Signs by Allowing for
Changeable Signs**

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1914, sub-§6, as repealed and replaced by PL 1981, c. 318, §4, is amended to read:

6. On-premise signs prohibited. An on-premise sign ~~shall be~~ is prohibited if it:

A. Attempts or appears to attempt to direct the movement of traffic or ~~which~~ interferes with, imitates or resembles any official traffic sign, signal or device;

B. Prevents the driver of a vehicle from having a clear and unobstructed view of official signs and approaching or merging traffic;

C. Contains, includes or is illuminated by a flashing, intermittent or moving light or lights, except as provided in subsection 11;

D. Uses lighting in any way unless the light is in the opinion of the commissioner effectively shielded ~~as~~ to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the public way or is of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or impair the vision of the operator of any motor vehicle or ~~as~~ to otherwise interfere with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle; or

E. Moves ~~or~~, has any animated or moving parts or has the appearance of movement, except as provided in subsection 11.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1914, sub-§9, as repealed and replaced by PL 1981, c. 318, §4, is amended to read:

9. Jurisdiction by local authority in compact or built-up sections. Administration ~~Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, administration~~ of this chapter by the Department of Transportation ~~shall does~~ not apply to on-premise advertisements located in compact or built-up sections, the administration of which ~~shall be~~ is the responsibility of local authority. In compact or built-up areas adjacent to the interstate, the Department of Transportation ~~shall be~~ is responsible for the administration of this section. The "compact or built-up section" of any town or city ~~shall be~~ is the territory contiguous to any highway ~~which~~ that is built up with buildings devoted to business or

dwelling purposes ~~which~~ that are situated less than 200 feet apart for a distance of at least 1/4 of a mile.

Sec. 3. 23 MRSA §1914, sub-§11 is enacted to read:

11. Changeable signs. Notwithstanding subsection 6, paragraphs C and E, changeable signs are not prohibited as long as the sign complies with all the terms of paragraph A or B.

A. For the purpose of this subsection, changeable message board signs are those signs in which the message may be electronically, mechanically or manually changed by the complete substitution or replacement of one display by another. The message on changeable message board signs may not be changed more than once in any 4-hour period.

B. For the purposes of this subsection, time and temperature signs are signs that electronically or mechanically display the time and temperature by the complete substitution or replacement of a display showing the time with a display showing the temperature.

This size, intensity of illumination and acceptable rate of change between the time display and the temperature display must comply with rules, policy or guidelines adopted by the Department of Transportation. Time and temperature signs erected before the effective date of this subsection need not comply with the rules, policy or guidelines.

C. This subsection is administered by the Department of Transportation unless the municipality in which the sign is located and the Department of Transportation have agreed in writing that the municipality may administer this subsection.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 391

H.P. 1080 - L.D. 1522

**An Act to Amend the Laws
Regarding Child Placing Agency
Disclosure of a Child's Background
for the Purpose of Adoption**

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

Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §1125, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 686, §5 and affected by §13, is repealed and the following enacted in its place: