



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1379

S.P. 424

In Senate, April 5, 2011

An Act To Establish Training Routes for School Bus Drivers

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator THOMAS of Somerset.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2308, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 183, §13, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **2. Stopping.** The operator of a vehicle on a way, in a parking area or on school
5 property, on meeting or overtaking a school bus from either direction when the bus has
6 stopped with its red lights flashing to receive or discharge passengers or for training
7 purposes, shall stop the vehicle before reaching the school bus. The operator may not
8 proceed until the school bus resumes motion or until signaled by the school bus operator
9 to proceed.

10 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2308, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 776, §42, is
11 further amended to read:

12 **4. Use of flashing red lights restricted.** Except during a driving license
13 examination or as provided in subsection 4-A, a school bus operator may not use the
14 system of flashing lights on a school bus for a purpose other than controlling traffic while
15 stopping to receive or discharge school-age persons.

16 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2308, sub-§4-A** is enacted to read:

17 **4-A. School bus operator training.** Notwithstanding any other law, a person who
18 has been issued a school bus instruction permit when accompanied by a licensed school
19 bus operator as provided in section 1304, subsection 4, paragraph C may activate flashing
20 red lights before a stop is made for training purposes without receiving or discharging
21 passengers. This training may take place only on roads with a posted speed limit of 45
22 miles per hour or less and during daylight hours.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill allows a person who is training to operate a school bus to activate flashing
25 red lights before a stop is made even though no passengers are being picked up or
26 discharged. This training may take place only on roads with a posted speed limit of 45
27 miles per hour or less and during daylight hours.