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Date: (Filing No. S-)

TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 527, L.D. 1617, Bill, “An Act To Ensure the Alignment of Truck Weight Limitations on the Interstate with Those Allowed under Federal Law”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Transportation To Allow Certain Vehicles To Operate on the Interstate System'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the emergency clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2355-B is enacted to read:

§2355-B. Exemption for weight, axle and configuration limits on interstate system

Notwithstanding the weight, axle and configuration limits specified in section 2355, subsections 1 to 3, for as long as the provisions of 23 United States Code, Section 127(a)(11) affording an exemption from the federal vehicle weight limitations for vehicles operating on all portions of the interstate system are in effect, the Commissioner of Transportation, by rule, may allow the operation of a vehicle on the interstate system if the vehicle complies with the provisions of this chapter applicable to the operation of vehicles on public ways other than the interstate system. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. As used in this section, "interstate system" has the same meaning as in Title 23, section 1903, subsection 3.'

SUMMARY

Under current law, for as long as the federal law affording an exemption from the federal vehicle weight limitations for vehicles operating on all portions of the interstate system is in effect, a 6-axle combination vehicle consisting of a 3-axle truck tractor with a tri-axle semitrailer having a maximum gross vehicle weight of 100,000 pounds may be operated on any portion of the interstate system.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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This amendment allows the Commissioner of Transportation, for as long as the federal exemption is in place, to adopt routine technical rules to allow a vehicle to operate on the interstate system if the vehicle complies with state law relating to weight, axle and configuration limits applicable to the operation of vehicles on public ways other than the interstate system.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)