



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1531

S.P. 615

In Senate, April 8, 2025

An Act to Better Protect Animal-drawn Vehicles and Motorists on Public Roadways

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DAIGLE of Fort Kent, FOSTER of Dexter, GUERRETTE of Caribou.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1909-C**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 301, §1, is repealed.

3 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1909-D** is enacted to read:

4 **§1909-D. Animal-drawn vehicles**

5 **1. Lights required at all times.** An animal-drawn vehicle may not be operated on a
6 public way unless it is equipped with and displays, at all times, the following:

7 A. One yellow flashing lamp displaying yellow light that is visible from a distance of
8 not less than 1,000 feet and that is mounted in either of the following positions:

9 (1) On the top-most portion of the rear of the animal-drawn vehicle; or

10 (2) On the top of the animal-drawn vehicle; and

11 B. At least one of the following:

12 (1) A slow-moving vehicle emblem on the rear of the animal-drawn vehicle; or

13 (2) Microprism reflective tape that is visible from a distance of not less than 500
14 feet to the rear of the animal-drawn vehicle when illuminated by the low beams of
15 headlights.

16 **2. Lights required when visibility is limited.** An animal-drawn vehicle may not be
17 operated on a public way unless it is equipped with and displays lights as described in
18 subsection 3 during the following times:

19 A. The time from sunset to sunrise;

20 B. At any other time when, due to insufficient natural light or unfavorable atmospheric
21 conditions, persons, vehicles and substantial objects on the public way are not
22 discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead of the animal-drawn vehicle; and

23 C. At any time when the windshield wipers of a vehicle are required to be in use
24 because of precipitation on the windshield.

25 **3. Light specifications.** For purposes of subsection 2, lights on an animal-drawn
26 vehicle when visibility is limited must include:

27 A. At least one lamp displaying a white light that is visible from a distance of not less
28 than 1,000 feet to the front of the animal-drawn vehicle; and

29 B. Two lamps displaying red light that is visible from a distance of not less than 1,000
30 feet to the rear of the animal-drawn vehicle or, as an alternative, one lamp displaying
31 a red light that is visible from a distance of not less than 1,000 feet to the rear of the
32 animal-drawn vehicle and 2 red reflectors that are visible from all distances of 100 feet
33 to 600 feet to the rear of the animal-drawn vehicle when illuminated by the low beams
34 of headlights.

35 **4. Exception.** This section does not apply to the operator of animal-drawn agricultural
36 equipment that is not transporting any livestock or a person other than the operator, except
37 that animal-drawn agricultural equipment may not be operated on a public way unless it is
38 equipped with and displays at all times a slow-moving vehicle emblem. For purposes of
39 this subsection, "agricultural equipment" means equipment drawn by the power of an
40 animal that is used solely for agricultural purposes.

