



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1899

S.P. 771

In Senate, May 9, 2023

**An Act to Establish a Maine Commercial Driver's License for Use
Within State Borders**

(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.

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

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham,
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1253-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§1253-A. Commercial driver's licenses within the State; exception**

4 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Secretary of State shall
5 establish a commercial driver's license for use only within the State in accordance with this
6 section.

7 **1. Requirements.** The holder of a commercial driver's license issued pursuant to this
8 section must comply with all of the requirements of section 1253, except that the Secretary
9 of State may not deny a person a commercial driver's license under this section on the basis
10 of the person's authorized use of cannabis pursuant to Title 22, chapter 558-C or Title 28-B.
11 This section may not be construed to authorize a person to use cannabis while operating a
12 motor vehicle.

13 **2. Exception.** A person may not obtain a commercial driver's license pursuant to this
14 section for the operation of a school bus.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill establishes a commercial driver's license for use only within the State and
17 prohibits the Secretary of State from denying a person that commercial driver's license on
18 the basis of the person's authorized use of cannabis. The bill clarifies that the prohibition
19 on denying a commercial driver's license may not to be construed as authorizing a person
20 to use cannabis while operating a motor vehicle. The bill provides that a person may not
21 obtain the commercial driver's license for the operation of a school bus.