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An Act Regarding the Use of Methadone by Operators of Commercial Motor Vehicles

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §558, sub-§1-B, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 703, §15, is amended to read:

D. A person commits a traffic infraction if that person violates any provision of the rules of the bureau adopted under section 555 that incorporates by reference any of the following federal regulations or that is an amended version of any of the following federal regulations:

(1) 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 390.21 (2007);

(2) 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 391.41 (2007), except that a violation that occurs as a result of the operation of a commercial motor vehicle by a person who has methadone or its metabolite in that person's body is a Class E crime;

(3) 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 392.16, 392.22, 392.24, 392.25, 392.33 and 392.71 (2007);

(4) Any section of 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 393 (2007); or

(5) 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 396, except Sections 396.7 and 396.9 (2007).

Sec. 2. Rules. The Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police shall amend its rules governing motor carrier safety to provide that operators for intrastate motor carriers that operate less than 100 air miles from their regular place of business are subject to the provisions of 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 391.41 (2007) that prohibit the operation of a commercial motor vehicle by a person who has methadone or its metabolite in that person's body.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits the operation of a commercial motor vehicle by a person who has methadone or its metabolite in that person's body and makes a violation of the prohibition a Class E crime.