



# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 515

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H.P. 354

House of Representatives, February 24, 2015

**An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Commercial Learner's  
Permits**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McLEAN of Gorham.  
Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York.

1       **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2       become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3       **Whereas,** effective July 8, 2015, Maine law will require that a commercial learner's  
4       permit holder must be 18 years of age or older, a change made to conform to a federal  
5       regulation change; and

6       **Whereas,** recently enacted federal legislation, the Consolidated and Further  
7       Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, Public Law No. 113-235, provides that specified  
8       federal funds may not be used to enforce that change in regulation in a state that, like  
9       Maine, allowed issuance of a commercial learner's permit to the state's residents under 18  
10       years of age prior to May 9, 2011; and

11       **Whereas,** many of the State's vocational and technical schools provide commercial  
12       driver education instruction and programs to residents under 18 years of age, which  
13       allows them to obtain their commercial license upon reaching 18 years of age and which  
14       allows them to gain employment in the trucking industry upon reaching the age of  
15       majority; and

16       **Whereas,** the State's economy benefits by having a pool of licensed commercial  
17       drivers to meet the needs of the trucking industry; and

18       **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
19       the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
20       immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
21       therefore,

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

23       **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1304, sub-§4-A, ¶D,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 381, Pt. B,  
24       §16, is repealed.

25       **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
26       legislation takes effect when approved.

27   **SUMMARY**

28       This bill repeals the requirement that limits eligibility for a commercial learner's  
29       permit to an applicant 18 years of age or older in a section of law that takes effect July 8,  
30       2015.