



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1628

H.P. 1123

House of Representatives, June 5, 2017

**An Act To Increase the Penalty for Failing To Carry Proof of Motor
Vehicle Financial Responsibility**

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 THERIAULT of China. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1605, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

4 **6. Operating without giving proof.** A person commits a Class ~~E~~ D crime if that
5 person is required to maintain proof of financial responsibility and, without authorization
6 from the Secretary of State and without that proof, operates a vehicle or knowingly
7 permits a vehicle owned by that person to be operated by another on a public way.

8 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1605, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

9 **6-A. Serious bodily injury while operating without proof.** A person commits a
10 Class C crime if that person is required to maintain proof of financial responsibility and,
11 without authorization from the Secretary of State and without that proof, operates a
12 vehicle or knowingly permits a vehicle owned by that person to be operated by another
13 on a public way and that vehicle is involved in an accident that results in serious bodily
14 injury while on that public way.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill makes it a Class C crime if a person who is required to maintain proof of
17 financial responsibility operates a vehicle, or knowingly allows the operation of that
18 vehicle, on a public way without such proof and that vehicle is involved in an accident
19 that results in serious bodily injury while being operated on the public way. This bill also
20 increases from a Class E to a Class D crime the penalty for such a person operating a
21 vehicle or knowingly allowing the operation of a vehicle without proof of financial
22 responsibility.