

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

H.P. 1138 - L.D. 1576

An Act To Improve the Department of Corrections' Response to Emergency Situations by Amending Provisions Related to Vehicles Operated by Certain Department Employees**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2017, c. 229, §32, is further amended to read:

B. "Authorized emergency vehicle" means any one of the following vehicles:

- (1) An ambulance;
- (2) A Baxter State Park Authority vehicle operated by a Baxter State Park ranger;
- (3) A Bureau of Marine Patrol vehicle operated by a coastal warden;
- (4) A Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry vehicle operated by a forest ranger;
- (5) A Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry vehicle used for forest fire control;
- (6) A Department of Corrections vehicle used for responding to the escape of or performing the high-security transfer of a prisoner, juvenile client or juvenile detainee or a Department of Corrections vehicle operated by a person who is certified by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy as a law enforcement officer;
- (7) A Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife vehicle operated by a warden;
- (8) A Department of Public Safety vehicle operated by a police officer appointed pursuant to Title 25, section 2908, a state fire investigator or a Maine Drug Enforcement Agency officer;
- (9) An emergency medical service vehicle;
- (10) A fire department vehicle;

- (11) A hazardous material response vehicle, including a vehicle designed to respond to a weapon of mass destruction;
- (12) A railroad police vehicle;
- (13) A sheriff's department vehicle;
- (14) A State Police or municipal police department vehicle;
- (15) A vehicle operated by a chief of police, a sheriff or a deputy sheriff when authorized by the sheriff;
- (16) A vehicle operated by a municipal fire inspector, a municipal fire chief, an assistant or deputy chief or a town forest fire warden;
- (17) A vehicle operated by a qualified deputy sheriff or other qualified individual to perform court security-related functions and services as authorized by the State Court Administrator pursuant to Title 4, section 17, subsection 15;
- (18) A Federal Government vehicle operated by a federal law enforcement officer;
- (19) A vehicle operated by a municipal rescue chief, deputy chief or assistant chief;
- (20) An Office of the Attorney General vehicle operated by a detective appointed pursuant to Title 5, section 202;
- (21) A Department of the Secretary of State vehicle operated by a motor vehicle detective; and
- (22) A University of Maine System vehicle operated by a University of Maine System police officer.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§5, ¶C, as amended by PL 2001, c. 360, §7, is further amended to read:

C. Exceed the maximum speed limits as long as life or property is not endangered, except that a capital security ~~officers~~ officer and ~~employees of the~~ a person operating a Department of Corrections vehicle who is not certified as a law enforcement officer by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy may not exercise this privilege;