

## **125th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

**Legislative Document** 

No. 770

H.P. 577

House of Representatives, March 1, 2011

## Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Update Weight Regulations

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Heath & Print

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative KESCHL of Belgrade. Cosponsored by Senator THOMAS of Somerset and Representatives: CHASE of Wells, CHIPMAN of Portland, COTTA of China, FLOOD of Winthrop, HARVELL of Farmington, ROTUNDO of Lewiston, WINSOR of Norway.

1 Sec. 1. Department of Transportation to create a study group on certain 2 weight limits. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall convene a study 3 group to review issues concerning weight tolerance, specifically for a tri-axle unit and a 4 tri-axle unit of a 4-axle single-unit vehicle, for certain vehicles on public ways. The 5 Department of Transportation shall invite the participation of representatives of the 6 trucking and transportation industry and other interested stakeholders. The study group 7 shall examine the current weight limits established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8 29-A, section 2357 and the problems that have arisen in adhering to the limits, 9 specifically focusing on the issue of load distribution problems and the enforcement of 10 the limits. The study group shall develop recommendations to adjust the limits to ensure the safety and structure of public ways in the State and to increase productivity and 11 12 efficiency in motor transportation; and be it further

13 Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 7, 2011, the Department 14 of Transportation shall report the results of the study under section 1 along with any 15 recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The Joint 16 Standing Committee on Transportation may submit a bill related to the report to the 17 Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

## SUMMARY

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19 This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to convene a study group to examine the current weight limits on public ways and the problems that have arisen 20 21 concerning the issue of load distribution problems and the enforcement of the limits and develop recommendations to adjust the limits to ensure the safety and structure of public 22 23 ways in the State and to increase productivity and efficiency in motor transportation. The department is directed to invite the participation of the trucking and transportation 24 25 industry and to report to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature with its 26 findings.