

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY

S.P. 460 - L.D. 1498

**An Act To Provide Equity for Commercial Vehicles on Roads and Bridges in
Maine**

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2354-C, sub-§1, first ¶, as amended by PL 2015, c. 119, §§1 and 2, is further amended to read:

1. Canadian gross vehicle weight limits. Notwithstanding section 2354, except as provided in subsection 5, the Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety and the Department of the Secretary of State, is authorized to allow certain commercial vehicles at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits to travel from the United States-Canada border at Calais to Baileyville, from the United States-Canada border at Madawaska to a paper mill at Madawaska and from the United States-Canada border at Van Buren to a rail yard in Van Buren. Vehicles are allowed to travel from the United States-Canada border under the following conditions.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2354-C, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 326, §2, is amended to read:

4. Monitor; report. The Department of Transportation shall monitor and evaluate the effects of the allowance under this section on road conditions. The Commissioner of Transportation shall submit ~~an initial~~ a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters ~~for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature and a final report to the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature~~ by January 1, 2024. The report must include any findings regarding the effects on road conditions and recommendations for continuance, discontinuance or modification of the allowance under this section. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters may submit legislation based on the findings and recommendations in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2354-C, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Exemption for wood. After December 31, 2025, the department may not authorize under this section the routes identified in subsection 1 for the travel of commercial vehicles transporting wood, as defined in Title 10, section 2361-A, subsection 11, at Canadian gross vehicle weight limits that exceed the gross vehicle weight limits established in this chapter. Nothing in this subsection prevents the department from authorizing an entity to operate a specified commercial motor vehicle configuration on a specified route of travel under section 2354-D.