

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Axle Weights

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2353, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Vehicles within maximum gross vehicle weight limits. Notwithstanding any provision of this subchapter to the contrary, if a vehicle that exceeds axle weight limits and axle weight tolerance restrictions imposed by this subchapter by less than 5,000 pounds is within the applicable maximum gross vehicle weight limit including tolerances, the fine imposed under this subchapter is reduced by 50%.

This subsection does not apply to vehicles traveling on the Interstate Highway System except that portion of Interstate 95 designated as the Maine Turnpike.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2360, sub-§7, as affected by PL 1995, c. 65, Pt. A, §153 and amended by Pt. C, §9 and affected by §15, is further amended to read:

7. Redistribution of load. Notwithstanding subsections 1 to 6, when an officer determines that a vehicle that is within the gross vehicle weight limit is in violation of an axle weight limit, the officer shall permit the operator to redistribute the load once before proceeding. If redistribution brings the vehicle into compliance with axle limits, then the fine is reduced as follows:

- A. If the violation is less than 2,000 pounds, no penalty; and
- B. If the violation is less than 3,000 pounds, by 66%; and
- C. ~~If the violation is less than 4,000 pounds, by 50%.~~

Effective September 12, 2009