



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 283

H.P. 227

House of Representatives, February 3, 2011

An Act To Require That Motor Vehicles Be Clear of Solid Precipitation When Operated on Public Ways

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative KNAPP of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, BOLDUC of Auburn, BURNS of Whiting, PEOPLES of Westbrook, ROSEN of Bucksport.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2396, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

3 **5. Solid precipitation.** A person may not operate a motor vehicle at a speed of 40
4 miles per hour or more on a public way with loads of solid precipitation on the motor
5 vehicle. For the purposes of this subsection, "solid precipitation" includes, but is not
6 limited to, snow, ice, hail and sleet.

7 When the load of solid precipitation on a motor vehicle consists of minor amounts, and a
8 reasonable effort has been made to completely remove the load, minor amounts blown
9 from the motor vehicle while in transit do not evidence a violation of this subsection.

10 A violation of this subsection is a traffic infraction subject to a fine of not less than \$250
11 for the first offense and not less than \$500 for a 2nd or subsequent offense.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill requires that a person operating a motor vehicle at 40 miles per hour or more
14 on a public way clear the motor vehicle of solid precipitation. Failure to clear a motor
15 vehicle is a traffic infraction subject to a \$250 fine for a first offense and \$500 for a 2nd
16 or subsequent offense.