



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 314

S.P. 102

In Senate, January 31, 2017

An Act Concerning Emergency Lights on Police Vehicles

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative McLEAN of Gorham and
Senator: COLLINS of York, Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, CEBRA of Naples,
PARRY of Arundel, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§2, ¶D**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 183, §2, is
3 further amended to read:

4 D. Except as provided in this paragraph, a vehicle may not be equipped with or
5 display a blue light.

6 (1) Emergency lights used on the following vehicles must emit a blue light or a
7 combination of blue and white light or a combination of blue and red light: a
8 police vehicle; a Department of Corrections vehicle as described in subsection 1,
9 paragraph B, subparagraph (6); a vehicle operated by a chief of police, a sheriff
10 or a deputy sheriff; and a vehicle operated by a qualified deputy sheriff or other
11 qualified individual performing court security-related functions and services.

12 (2) Emergency lights used on an ambulance, an emergency medical service
13 vehicle, a fire department vehicle or a hazardous material response vehicle may
14 include one blue light mounted facing toward the rear of the vehicle so that the
15 light is primarily visible to approaching traffic from the rear only.

16 (3) The taillight of a vehicle, or replica of a vehicle, manufactured prior to 1952
17 and registered under section 457, may contain a blue or purple insert of not more
18 than one inch in diameter.

19 (4) Blue interior auxiliary lighting or dash lighting may be used on any vehicle if
20 no portion of the beam of light is visible at a height of 42 inches above a surface
21 parallel with the level surface on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 20 feet
22 from any part of the vehicle.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill permits the use of a combination of blue and red emergency lights on police
25 vehicles and on certain other vehicles used by law enforcement, corrections and court
26 security personnel.