

## 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

**Legislative Document** 

No. 970

H.P. 714

House of Representatives, March 8, 2011

An Act To Increase Safety for Law Enforcement Officers and Emergency Responders

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick. Cosponsored by Senator GERZOFSKY of Cumberland and

Representatives: CLARK of Easton, DION of Portland, GILBERT of Jay, HINCK of Portland, LOVEJOY of Portland, MAZUREK of Rockland, WEBSTER of Freeport, Senator: CRAVEN of Androscoggin.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2 3	<b>Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§9,</b> as amended by PL 2007, c. 348, §20, is further amended to read:
4 5 6	<b>9. Stationary vehicles.</b> The operator of a vehicle passing a stationary authorized emergency vehicle using an emergency light or a stationary wrecker using its authorized lights, with due regard to the safety and traffic conditions, shall:
7 8	A. Pass in a lane not adjacent to that of the authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker, if possible; or
9 10 11	B. If passing in a nonadjacent lane is impossible or unsafe, pass the emergency vehicle or wrecker at a careful and prudent speed reasonable for passing the authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker safely.
12 13 14	A violation of this subsection is a traffic infraction for which a minimum fine of \$250 \$500 must be adjudged, except that, beginning September 1, 2013, a minimum fine of \$250 must be adjudged.
15	SUMMARY
16 17 18	Current law requires a minimum fine of \$250 for an operator of a vehicle who passes a stationary authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker in an unsafe manner. This bill raises that fine to \$500 for a 2-year period, after which the fine will go back to \$250.