**§2387. Bridge loads**

**1. Local authority to limit weight, number or speed.**  Officials responsible for the repair and maintenance of a bridge may limit the combined weight of vehicle and load or any axle, or the number or speed of vehicles permitted on a bridge to the limit necessary for the safety of life or property or the maintenance of the bridge.

[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

**2. Department of Transportation responsibility.**  If an official fails to set limits, the Department of Transportation may set limits.

[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

**3. Posting.**  Regulations are in effect when notice is conspicuously posted at each end of a bridge.

[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

**4. Advice.**  Limits must be based on the advice of the Department of Transportation or a registered professional civil engineer retained for the purpose of inspecting and determining the safe capacity of bridges.

In an emergency, the officials may set limits as they may determine proper for the structural capacity or the maintenance of the bridge.

As soon as is reasonably possible, the officials shall seek the advice of the Department of Transportation.

[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

**5. Penalty.**  Violation of a posted bridge weight limit is a traffic violation, for which a forfeiture of $20 per each full 1,000 pounds plus $30 per each full 10% over the posted limit may be adjudged.

It is not a violation if the excess weight is less than 500 pounds multiplied by the number of axles less one.

If the violation is for excess weight less than 1,000 pounds multiplied by the number of axles less one, the fine is reduced by 50%.

[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 683, §A2 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 683, §B5 (AFF).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular Session and the First Special Session of the131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.