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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 424, L.D. 605, Bill, “An Act To Allow a Minor in the Police Explorer Program To Assist with Traffic Control at Civic Events”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §772, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 59, §1, is amended to read:

5. Application. This section does not apply to minors in public and approved private schools where mechanical equipment is installed and operated primarily for purposes of instruction or minors who are volunteer participants in a career-oriented law enforcement program and perform traffic control duties at civic events pursuant to section 786.

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §786 is enacted to read:

§786. Traffic control duties

1. Traffic control duties permitted. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a minor who is 14 years of age or older and is a volunteer participant in a career-oriented law enforcement program may perform traffic control duties in accordance with this section.

2. Training. A minor may not perform traffic control duties under this section until the minor has received traffic control training in accordance with the requirements of the supervising law enforcement agency. Proof of the minor's successful completion of the training must be maintained by the law enforcement agency.

3. Supervision. A minor may perform traffic control duties only under direct supervision of a law enforcement officer as part of a career-oriented law enforcement program. This supervision must:

A. Be from a close distance so that the officer does not become distracted or perform other duties; and

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1 B. Include means of radio contact in the event that the minor needs to contact
2 another officer for assistance.

3 **4. Limitations on events.** A minor may perform traffic control duties only at civic
4 events, fair parking lots, parades, walks, foot races, car shows and charity events.

5 **5. Limitations on locations.** A minor may not:

6 A. Direct traffic or pedestrians on busy roadways or thoroughfares;

7 B. Assist in traffic control at places of heightened danger such as traffic stops or
8 roadblocks;

9 C. Direct traffic in conjunction with crowd control or riot control;

10 D. Collect donations at a traffic light;

11 E. Direct traffic at funeral processions; or

12 F. Direct traffic at the scene of an emergency.

13 **6. Night activities prohibited.** A minor may perform the activities authorized under
14 this section only during the period from sunrise to sunset.'

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This amendment allows minors who are volunteer participants in a career-oriented
17 law enforcement program to perform traffic control duties at civic events after receiving
18 the required training to perform these duties, but only under direct supervision and only
19 in accordance with a number of restrictions.

20 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

21 **(See attached)**