# VEHICLE WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ORDINANCE

### FOR THE

# TOWN OF ALEXANDER, MAINE

**ENACTED:** 

December 12, 2013

**EFFECTIVE:** 

December 12, 2013

**CERTFIED BY:** 

Selectmen Chairman

Title

Affix Seal

#### AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING VEHICLE WEIGHT ON POSTED WAYS

#### Section 1. Purpose and Authority

The purpose of this "Ordinance Restricting Vehicle Weight on Posted Ways" (hereinafter, the "Ordinance") is to prevent damage to town ways and bridges in the Town of Alexander which may be caused by vehicles of excessive weight, to lessen safety hazards and the risk of injury to the traveling public, to extend the life expectancy of town ways and bridges, and to reduce the public expense of their maintenance and repair. This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3009 and 29-A M.R.S.A. §§ 2395 and 2388.

#### Section 2. Definitions

The definitions contained in Title 29-A M.R.S.A. shall govern the construction of words contained in this Ordinance. Any words not defined therein shall be given their common and ordinary meaning.

#### Section 3. Restrictions and Notices

The municipal officers may, either permanently or seasonally, impose such restrictions on the gross registered weight of vehicles as may, in their judgment, be necessary to protect the traveling public and prevent abuse of the highways, and designate the town ways and bridges to which the restrictions shall apply.

Whenever notice has been posted as provided herein, no person may thereafter operate any vehicle with a gross registered weight in excess of the restriction during any applicable time period on any way or bridge so posted unless otherwise exempt as provided herein.

The notice shall contain, at a minimum, the following information: the name of the way or bridge, the gross registered weight limit, the time period during which the restriction applies, the date on which the notice was posted, and the signatures of the municipal officers. The notice shall be conspicuously posted at each end of the restricted portion of the way or bridge in a location clearly visible from the traveled way

Whenever a restriction expires or is lifted, the notices shall be removed wherever posted. Whenever a restriction is revised or extended, existing notices shall be removed and replaced with new notices. No person may remove, obscure or otherwise tamper with any notice so posted except as provided herein.

#### **Section 4. Exemptions**

Vehicles that are exempt from the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) "Rules and Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads on Closed Ways" dated December 31, 1996 and amended on March 4, 1998, a copy of which is on file at the town office and is hereby incorporated as part of this Ordinance, are exempt from this Ordinance. In addition, any vehicle delivering home heating fuel and operating in accordance with a permit issued by the MaineDOT under 29-A M.R.S.A. § 2395 (4) and, when necessary during a period of drought emergency declared by the governor, any vehicle transporting well-drilling equipment for the purpose of drilling a replacement well or for improving an existing well on property where that well is no longer supplying sufficient water for residential or agricultural purpose and operating in accordance with a permit issued by the MaineDOT under 29-A M.R.S.A. § 2395 (4-A).

#### Section 5. Permits

The owner or operator of any vehicle not otherwise exempt as provided herein may apply in writing to the municipal officers for a permit to operate on a posted way or bridge notwithstanding the restriction. The municipal officers may issue a permit only upon all of the following findings:

- (a) no other route is reasonably available to the applicant;
- (b) it is a matter of economic necessity and not mere convenience that the applicant use the way or bridge; and
- (c) the applicant has tendered cash, a bond or other suitable security running to the municipality in an amount sufficient, in their judgment, to repair any damage to the way or bridge which may reasonably result from the applicant's use of same.

Even if the municipal officers make the foregoing findings, they need not issue a permit if they determine the applicant's use of the way or bridge could reasonably be expected to create or aggravate a safety hazard or cause substantial damage to a way or bridge maintained by the municipality. They may also limit the number of permits issued or outstanding as may, in their judgment, be necessary to preserve and protect the highways and bridges.

In determining whether to issue a permit, the municipal officers shall consider the following factors:

- (a) the gross registered weight of the vehicle;
- (b) the current and anticipated condition of the way or bridge;
- (c) the number and frequency of vehicle trips proposed;
- (d) the cost and availability of materials and equipment for repairs;
- (e) the extent of use by other exempt vehicles; and
- (f) such other circumstances as may, in their judgment, be relevant.

The municipal officers may issue permits subject to reasonable conditions, including but not limited to restrictions on the actual load weight and the number or frequency of vehicle trips, which shall be clearly noted on the permit.

#### Section 6. Administration and Enforcement

This Ordinance shall be administered and may be enforced by the municipal officers or their duly authorized designee [such as road commissioner, code enforcement officer or law enforcement officer].

#### Section 7. Penalties

Any violation of this Ordinance shall be a civil infraction subject to a fine of not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$1000.00. Each violation shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition to any fine, the municipality may seek restitution for the cost of repairs to any damaged way or bridge and reasonable attorney fees and costs. Prosecution shall be in the name of the municipality and shall be brought in the Maine District Court.

#### **Section 8. Amendments**

This Ordinance may be amended by the municipal officers at any properly noticed meeting.

#### Section 9. Severability; Effective Date

In the event any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions shall continue in full force and effect. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment by the municipal officers at any properly noticed meeting.

#### **Department of Transportation**

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS RESTRICTING HEAVY LOADS ON CLOSED WAYS

SUMMARY: The following rules and regulations restrict heavy loads on posted State and State Aid Highways from November 15 to June 1, pursuant to the Department's authority under Title 29-A M.R.S.A., Section 2395.

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

- A. The definitions contained in Title 29-A, Section 101 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated shall govern the construction of the words contained in this regulation.
- B. Gross weight is the combined weight of the vehicle and its load.
- C. Special Mobile Equipment. "Special Mobile Equipment" shall mean every self-propelled vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property but which is operated over the highways, including road construction or maintenance machinery, ditch-digging apparatus, stone crushers, air compressors, power shovels, cranes, graders, rollers, trucks used only as snowplows and for carrying sand for ballast only, well drillers and wood-sawing equipment used for hire. This enumeration shall be deemed partial and shall not operate to exclude other such vehicles which are within the general terms of this section.

#### 2. DESIGNATED CLOSED WAYS

In order to prevent excessive damage to State and State-Aid Highways, the Director of Bureau of Maintenance and Operations or the Division Engineer in whose Division the highway lies may close all or part of a highway to heavy vehicles during any time from November 15 to June 1. No vehicles shall travel over closed ways except those permitted by this regulation.

#### 3. NOTICE

Notice shall be given by erecting at each end of the closed highway a poster indicating the following: (1) the date of the posting, (2) a description of the highway closed, (3) a summary of the vehicles exempt from the closing, (4) the name of the Division Engineer and (5) statutory and regulatory references.

#### 4. EXEMPTION - FROZEN HIGHWAYS

This regulation shall not apply to any closed highway which is solidly frozen. The highway is considered "solidly frozen" only when the air temperature is 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below *and* no water is showing in the cracks of the road. *Both* conditions must be met.

#### 5. EXEMPT VEHICLES

The following vehicles are exempt from this regulation:

- A. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight of 23,000 pounds or less.
- B. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight in excess of 23,000 pounds and traveling without a load other than tools or equipment necessary for the proper operation of the vehicle. This exemption does not apply to special mobile equipment.

It shall be a defense to a violation of this sub-section if the combined weight of any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight in excess of 23,000 pounds and its load is in fact less than 23,000 pounds.

- C. Maine Department of Transportation highway maintenance vehicles or vehicles under the direction of a public jurisdiction with permission of the Department engaged in emergency maintenance of public highways or appurtenances thereto.
- D. Passenger cars, pickup trucks, emergency vehicles, school buses, and vehicles with three axles or less under the direction of a public utility and engaged in plant maintenance or repair. See: Amendment, Posted Road Rules
- E. Any vehicle transporting home heating fuel (oil, gas, coal, stove-size wood) to a private consumer, gasoline, groceries, bulk milk, bulk feed, solid waste, rubbish, or medical gases may apply for an exemption certificate (included). These vehicles must be registered in excess of 23,000 pounds and must be carrying a partial load with a weight equal to or less than that indicated on an exemption certificate issued by the Maine Department of Transportation (included). This certificate shall accompany the vehicle at all times as shall weigh slips, delivery slips, or bills of lading for the load being carried. The allowable weight indicated on the exemption certificate will be based on weights listed in the table included. Applicants for exemption certificates must present a certified weigh slip for the empty weight of the unloaded vehicle as a prerequisite to obtaining an exemption certificate.
- F. Any combination vehicle of five axles or more weighing 80,000 pounds gross or less hauling perishable products. A permit issued by the Department of Transportation shall accompany any load of perishable products. (See STATE OF MAINE Trip Ticket for Perishable Products).
- G. Division Engineers, at their discretion and in extraordinary circumstances, may allow heavy loads over posted roadways involving singular, nonrecurring moves. Such permission shall be made in writing and shall accompany the vehicle at all times.

## 6. PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING AND USING TRIP TICKETS FOR HAULING PERISHABLE PRODUCTS OVER SEASONALLY POSTED ROADS

- A. It is now possible for a shipper to haul perishable products over seasonally closed ways by securing a *permit* from the Maine Department of Transportation at any one of MDOT's seven Division Offices.
- B. The permit issued will be in the form of individual pre-numbered trip tickets for hauling of perishable products by 5-axle-or-more combination vehicles and will be limited to a combined weight of 80,000 lbs. and may, on occasion, be further limited by time, route, and temperature.
- C. These trip tickets for hauling perishable products over seasonally closed ways will cost \$5.00 each. (Checks payable to Treasurer, State of Maine). These trip tickets will consist of three copies each with the following distribution: (1) original copy (white) for driver, (2) second copy (green) to be returned immediately to the Maine Department of Transportation, and (3) third copy (pink) to be retained by the shipper.
- D. The shipper or shipper's agent will call the appropriate Division Office and complete his/her form simultaneously with, and under guidance of the Permit Clerk. The customer is to have all the information that is required on the trip ticket before he/she makes the call. Trip tickets are to be made out in ink.
- E. After routing check and verification, the customer will be given a permit number which must be entered on the form in order to make it valid for law enforcement purposes. When

the required information is entered and the call is completed, the Permit is issued and the move may be made. The original trip ticket *must* accompany the load.

- F. Each time a trip ticket is filled out, the *green* copy must be mailed immediately to the Maine Department of Transportation.
- G. MDOT clerks will be available to take information for these trip tickets between the hours of 8 A.M. and 4 P.M., Monday through Friday at the appropriate Division Office.
- H. Additional trip tickets will not be issued to shippers in continual violation of any of the required procedures.
- I. The Department will retain the right to close any posted road to the hauling of perishable products in extreme circumstances.

EFFECTIVE DATE:	, 1996
SIGNED	·
	SE, COMMISSIONER
MAINE DEPART	MENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Amendment, Posted Road Rules. The Commissioner concurred in the action taken by Marc H. Guimont, Director, Bureau of Maintenance and Operations when on March 3, 1998, he amended the Posted Roads Rules to specifically exempt tow trucks from hauling otherwise legal vehicles over a posted road. Such a combination of vehicles will not be considered a loaded vehicle for purposes of subsection D of the exemptions. Subsection D is amended to read: "Passenger cars, pickup trucks, emergency vehicles, school buses, a wrecker towing a disabled vehicle of legal weight from a posted highway and vehicles with three axles or less under the direction of a public utility and engaged in plant maintenance and repair."

3/04/98

#### ITEM FOR COMMISSION RECORD

2/20/91

The Commissioner repealed rule 17-229-303 "Rules And Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads On Closed Ways" as last amended on June 26, 1985.

The Commissioner has enacted a new rule pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 29, Sections 902 and 903 entitled "Rules and Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads On Closed Ways." This new rule replaces the old rule and is not being adopted under the Administrative Procedures Act rulemaking process because the new rule is now exempt from that process as provided by M.R.S.A. Title 29, Section 903. The old rule is rescinded and the new rule is effective as of February 20, 1991.

Approved by Commissioner of Transportation 2/20/91

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING - CAPITOL STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

#### APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

#### TO: MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

requests consideration for an EXEMPTION Certificate, for the vehicle listed below to operate on State and State-Aid Highways which have been posted with "HEAVY LOADS LIMITED" signs, under the provisions of Department of Transportation, Rules and Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads on Closed Ways, Section 5, E:

Any vehicle transporting home heating fuel (oil, gas, coal, stove-size wood) to a private consumer, gasoline, groceries, bulk milk, bulk feed, solid waste, rubbish, or medical gases may apply for an exemption certificate. These vehicles must be registered in excess of 23,000 pounds and must be carrying a partial load with a weight equal to or less than that indicated on an exemption certificate issued by the Maine Department of Transportation (included). This certificate shall accompany the vehicle at all times as shall weigh slips, delivery slips, or bills of lading for the load being carried. The allowable weight indicated on the exemption certificate will be based on weights listed in the table included.

Applicants for exemption certificates must present a certified weigh slip for the empty weight of the unloaded vehicle as a prerequisite to obtaining an exemption certificate.

The applicant understands:

- 1. The weight limitation as indicated on the certificate, vehicle with load, does not apply when the closed sections of the highway are solidly frozen.
- 2. The vehicles will be subject to weighing by the Maine State Police.
- 3. The owner of any vehicle operating on any closed section of highway, the gross weight (vehicle and load) of which exceeds the weight indicated on the certificate will be in violation of any EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE ISSUED.
- 4. A violation of the requirements on the CERTIFICATE may lead to revocation.
- 5. The CERTIFICATE granted as a result of this application will be valid for the vehicle described below unless the registration number or ownership changes. In such cases a new application must be submitted.

This application is for the following vehicle.

REGISTRATION	MAKE AND YEAR		
VEHICLE I.D. NO.	REGISTERED G.V.W		
EMPTY WEIGHT	COMMODITY TRANSPORTED	)	
VEHICLE CONFIGURATION (CIRCLE ONE)			
Vehicle Configuration - various trucks			
TIRE SIZE: (Use the most commo based on the manufacturer's rating.)	on tire size on axles other than the ste	eering axle. Tire widths shall be	
I will instruct all operators and employees transporting the above indicated commodity to comply with the provisions of the Departmental Rules and Regulations and of the EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE.			
COMPANYSIGN	NED BY	DATE	
•			

ADDRESS	_ TITLE	
PHONE NO		

#### STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**BUREAU OF MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS** HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE DIVISION STATE HOUSE STATION 16 AUGUSTA, ME 04333 TELEPHONE (207) 287-2661

NUMBER

#### **EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE**

In accordance with the provisions of Department of Transportation, Rules and Regulations Restricting Heavy Loads on Closed Ways, Section 5E., the vehicle described below is authorized to be operated loaded as indicated below on all sections of State or State-aid Highways which have been posted with "HEAVY LOADS LIMITED" signs.

	OWNER	REGISTRATION	
	MAKE & YEAR	VEHICLE I.D. NO	
	REGISTERED GVW	EMPTY WEIGHT	
COM	MMODITY TRANSPORTED:		
VEH	IICLE CONFIGURATION: (check	one)	
× \	Vehicle Configuration		
	TIRE SIZE: (The r widths shall be based on the manus	nost common tire size on axles other than the steering axle. Tire facturer's rating.)	
	MAXIMUM PERMITTED PAY I	LOAD	
	MAXIMUM PERMITTED GROS	S WEIGHT	
This	certificate is subject to the following	g conditions:	

- 1. The gross weight (vehicle with load) shall not exceed that indicated above.
- 2. The loads shall be limited to the commodity indicated above.
- 3. The driver of the vehicle shall have available a copy of this certificate and delivery slips or bills of lading covering the entire amount of the commodity being transported and must present them to any investigating officer on request.

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4. A violation of the requirements of this certificate may lead to revocation.

Certificate is issued on:	, 20
By:	
Brian W. Pi	ckard, Highway Maintenance Eng.
Gross Vehicle	Weight Allowances For Exemption Certificate
	(Weights are in Lbs.)
Gross Vehicle We	eight Allowances for Exemption Certificate
S. Coco Tollinos TTC	rgits along for Exemption octalicate
on:	
GVW from chart - Empty wei	ight = Payload
Notes: (1) All axles must normally has two tires.	t have four tires except for the steering axle which
	the above table shall be the most common tire size teering axle. Tire widths shall be based on the
E OF MAINE TRIP TICKET for Per	ishable Products
PERMIT OFFICE THIS NO.	
1	
1	
R PERMIT NO. YOU RECEIVE HE	ERE

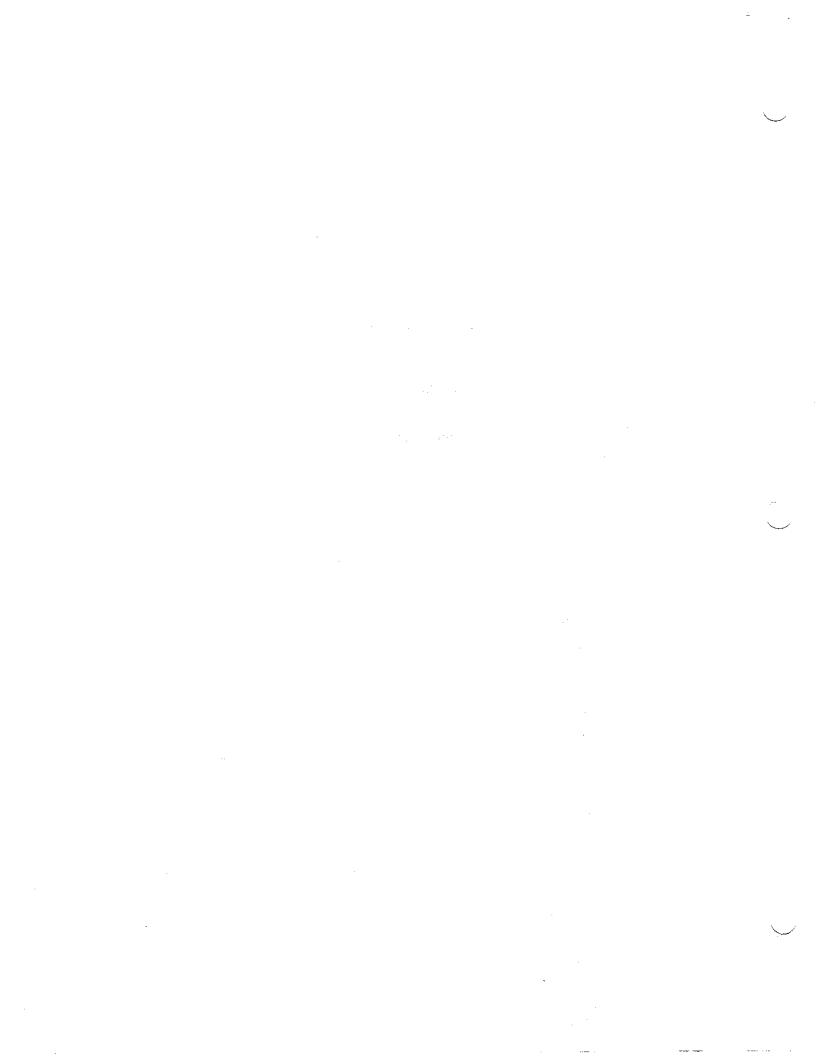
APPLICANT	·	
ADDRESS		
VIA ROUTES		
MOVING	OWNED BY	
REGISTRATION NO	REGISTERED WGT.	NO. OF AXLES
Limited to 80,000 lbs. on a 5 axle of	or more Combination Vehicle.	
Other limitations		
		ays. Must obey Motor Vehicle & Public for Hauling Perishable Products over
DATE OF MOVE	Signed by	<u> </u>

ROAD MAINTENANCE

FOR THE TOWN OF

ALEXANDER

June 1992



The Selectmen of the Town of Alexander are pleased to provide the following road system information to the residents of Alexander. With the ever increasing costs of doing business today, we feel that we must work to keep our costs down to the lowest levels possible while maximizing our level of service to the townspeople. The prevailing concensus is that if we are going to make a substantial investment, we don't want to be in a hurry and we need to do it right the first time. The road system here in Alexander is one area in which we will do just that. This report is part one of a two part report. Part one will report on what is presently taking place in Alexander and the reasoning for such construction, while part two will be a more detailed report looking ahead to a five year plan of action.

The Town of Alexander maintains approximately 9.2 miles of paved roadways of which this report concerns itself. The Selectmen of Alexander met with Mr. Roger Picard, a consultant with Pavement Management Services and toured the Spearin, Flat, Arm, Pleasant Lake, C.E. Davis, South Princeton, and Pocomoonshine Roads.

The Spearin and Flat Roads at this time will not be receiving any major rework and will be addressed in part two of this report to be released by August 15. These two road surfaces are holding up well.

Based on advice from Mr. Picard, we decided to go out for bids on paving the Pleasant Lake Road from the campground to the intersection of the Arm and C.E. Davis Roads since a minimal amount of work would be required to prepare the road surface to accept the pavement. If the bids came in at a reasonable cost we would look into extending the pavement up the C.E. Davis Road to Route 9. This work would not only apply a layer of hot top from the Pleasant Lake Campground to Route 9 but it would also increase the width of the paved section to fourteen feet. The quotes already received from the bidding process will allow us to perform this work. We felt this road which carries considerably wider/heavier traffic during the summer months would be made safer and minimize those middle of the road encounters, thus protecting both life and property. Cross road culverts that are damaged or rusted will be replaced under the authority of our Road Commissioner Mr. DiCenzo. As a prerequisite to this work, ditching operations will also take place to avert future drainage problems and prolong the life of our investment.

The Arm Road is in need of considerable work also and the question may be asked why we are not doing this one first. Paving a road involves considerable expense not only in materials but also in preparatory work. The proper preparation of the road and its surface is of paramount importance when working with a limited budget. As Selectmen, we felt that if we were going to make an investment into the road surface, we wanted to have any road construction that needed to be done completed and our drainage system in order. This is the case of the Arm Road. Paving will begin (once again thanks to a lower than expected paving bid) at the four corner intersection of the Pleasant Lake and C.E. Davis and Arm Roads, and extend .9 miles to the Niles residence where it will stop. This pavement will also be increased to a width of fourteen feet. From the point where the paving stops, over the hill and down into the gully, construction will occur. Under the supervision of Mr. DiCenzo this hill will be dug down approximately three feet and pushed into the gully raising this depression by some three to four feet. This

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construction effectively levels out this section of road eliminating the blind hill and enabling a person to safely see oncoming vehicles in advance from both travel directions.

Over 15 tons of patch has been used on the South Princeton Road so far this year. It will take a considerable amount of money to bring this road up to standard, quite a bit more than what the Town of Alexander can raise. We are presently working with the Town of Princeton and Legislative Representative Harry Bailey in an attempt to get this road turned over to the State. Our level of investment on this road will depend on the outcome of our attempt.

The Pocomoonshine Road will be another required construction project before paving. Drainage is a major problem with this road. A workable drainage system will have to be developed and implemented through the low-lying area at the base of the hill. Ditching and culvert repair/replacement will be essential to this drainage plan. Once this is accomplished, depending on the drainage plan, the road bed through the low-lying area may have to be raised by two feet.

In summary, we cannot emphasize enough our need to get the roadbeds properly prepared before spending any money on paving. It would do no good whatsoever to pave a road only to have a drainage problem destroy the road the following spring or during a heavy rain. Water has to be controlled through ditches and unobstructed culverts. Reconstruction on the Arm and Pocomoonshine Roads is an absolute necessity before any paving operation can begin. Part two will include a more detailed report on exactly what will be done to the roads and along the sides of the road including the timetables under which each piece will be accomplished.

Carleton E. Davis John H. Dudley Patrick Harris දිසි දැක කරයි. දා රිසුන් කම් අතුමුණ දිසි. පාල මේ ලිමුක්ති කාල යා වෙසි ඒ දිසි ් . . කලට දිස්රි

en ger plik e tra od spant Belju, me plegrab pur och det by to traduct det comment of the commen