

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-307)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1411, L.D. 1576, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Periodic Justification of Departments and Agencies of State Government under the Maine Sunset Law."

Amend the Bill by inserting after section 91 the following:

Sec. 92. 29 MRSA §106, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 664, is amended to read:

On and after February 1st, it is lawful to use and display on such vehicles ~~the number-plates~~ a registration plate or ~~a suitable devices~~ device in lieu thereof issued for the registration year.

Sec. 93. 29 MRSA §106, sub-§3, as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 664, is amended to read:

3. Number plates. ~~Number-plates~~ A number plate or a suitable device in lieu thereof furnished for the next registration period for automobiles, motor trucks and truck tractors may be displayed on the first day of the month in which the current registration expires.

Sec. 94. 29 MRSA §110, first 2 sentences are amended to read:

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The Secretary of State shall furnish a suitable number ~~plates, seals~~ plate, seal and other distinguishing marks, without charge, to every person except dealers, manufacturers and holder of transporter registration plates whose vehicle is registered under this Title. ~~Such plates,~~ ^{The} plate shall be of a distinctly different color or shade each year and shall be in such form as the Secretary of State may determine; and shall bear the numerals of the year of issue or the last 2 numerals of said year, the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "Me." in letters not less than 3/4 inch in height, and on plates issued for passenger vehicles for private use, hire cars and trucks, there shall be placed at the ~~bottom~~ thereof in letters not less than 3/4 inch in height the word "Vacationland."

Sec. 25, 29 MRSA §110, 2nd ¶, first sentence is amended to read:

Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the Secretary of State may provide and issue a suitable device in lieu of a new registration number ~~plates~~ plate for any calendar year.

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Sec. 96. 29 MRSA §117, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 41,
is amended to read:

§117. Registration for members of Armed Forces returning from
overseas duty

The provisions of this Title relative to the registration of motor vehicles and the display of a number plates plate shall not apply to motor vehicles having registrations and displaying plates issued by the Armed Forces of the United States in foreign countries for vehicles owned by military or naval personnel, but said exemption shall be valid only for a period of 45 days after the owner thereof has returned to the United States.

Sec. 97. 29 MRSA §152, first sentence, as amended by PL 1979, c. 439, §7, is further amended to read:

Whoever transfers the ownership or discontinues the use of a registered motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer and applies to the Secretary of State for registration of another motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer in the same registration year shall be entitled to a certificate of registration permitting the use of a number plates plate of the proper class of registration thereon upon payment of a transfer fee of \$8, provided the fee is the same as that of the former vehicle.

Sec. 98. 29 MRSA §154, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 481, §5-B, is further amended to read:

§154. Unused plate

The owner, or the surviving spouse, who returns a number plates plate with an affidavit that they-have it has never been used and the Secretary of State is satisfied that the number plates-have plate has never been used, shall be refunded the registration fee paid if such plates-are plate is returned within 120 days of the date of purchase.

Sec. 99. 29 MRSA §191, sub-§1, first ¶, last sentence, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 481, §6, is amended to read:
These deposit fees shall not be applied as part payment of the registration fee when plates-are a plate is issued.

Sec. 100. 29 MRSA §192, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 589, §5, is further amended to read:

§192. Initial plates

The Secretary of State is authorized to design and to issue, under such regulations as he shall deem appropriate, an initial type registration plates plate or combination of initials and numeric type registration plates plate to be used on passenger motor vehicles or motor vehicles of the station wagon type or pickup trucks or motorcycles or camper vehicles in lieu of other numeric type registration plates. ~~Such plates/~~^{The} plate shall be of such design and shall bear such letters or letters and numbers as the Secretary of State shall prescribe, but the shall be no duplication of identification.

The registration ~~plates~~ plate so provided shall be issued only upon application therefor, and upon payment of an annual service fee of \$10. The service fee is to be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee as prescribed by law for the particular vehicle. The amount received for such service fee shall be credited to the ~~General~~ Highway Fund and there shall be allocated annually from the ~~General~~ Highway Fund a sum sufficient to defray the cost of this program.

Application for a registration plates plate as prescribed above, pertaining to owners of passenger vehicles or motor vehicles of the station wagon type or pickup trucks or motorcycles or camper vehicles who are residents of this State and who own an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission, except those licensed as novices by the Federal Communications Commission, shall be accompanied by a notarized proof of ownership of such amateur radio station license. ~~Registration-plates~~ A registration plate issued under this paragraph shall be inscribed with the official amateur radio call letters of such applicant as assigned by the Federal Communications Commission.

Application for a new registration plates plate shall be received in the office of the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State may issue a facsimile plate for a 15-day period during the period of production of the semi-permanent plate. The facsimile plate shall be attached to the rear plate bracket.

Sec. 101, 29 MRSA §193, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 78, §166, is further amended to read:

§193. State officials

The Secretary of State shall, upon payment of the fees required in sections 109 and 242, subsection 1, paragraph A and application therefor, by Maine Members of the United States Senate, Maine Members of the United States House of Representatives, Members of the Legislature, Representatives of the Indian Tribes at the Legislature, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, issue one ~~pair-of~~ specially designed number ~~plates~~ plate for one designated motor vehicle owned or controlled by each of the officials named. Upon request by a Maine Member of the United States Senate or by a Maine Member of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of State shall issue an additional ~~pair-of~~ specially designed number ~~plates~~ plate for a 2nd designated motor vehicle owned or controlled by that member. Such specially designed ~~plates~~ plate and ~~their~~ its accompanying registration certificate shall be issued to, and used by, the named officials in lieu of the regular ~~plates~~ plate and registration provided for in section 110 at the option of the named officials. If any of the named officials shall choose to apply for a motor vehicle registration and ~~plates~~ plate as prescribed in section 110, and also request in addition to the regular registration and ~~plates~~ plate, that he or she be issued an additional ~~set-of~~ specially designed ~~pla~~

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plate together with ~~their~~ its accompanying certificates of registration, the Secretary of State shall upon receipt of application and the payment of a fee of \$2 issue such special plates plate and registration certificate for such motor vehicle that is currently registered and assigned a regular registration, plates plate. Any specially designed number plates plate issued to any of the named officials shall be valid only during the term of office for which the registrant is elected. In case the office is for any cause vacated during said term, such special number plates plate and registration certificate shall be immediately surrendered to the Secretary of State.

The color, shape, size, lettering and numbering of the special plates plate shall be determined by the Secretary of State, except the plates plate issued to Members of the House of Representatives, other than the Speaker of the House, shall bear the number of the seat assigned to such member, and except the plates plate issued to the Members of the Senate, except the President of the Senate, shall bear the number of the Senatorial District which the respective Senators represent.

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Sec. 102, 29 M RSA §246, 5th ¶, / ^{first} sentence is amended to read:

The Secretary of State shall issue a registration plate or plates so designed that a farm motor truck registered under this section may be distinguished from commercial vehicles otherwise registered under this section.

Sec. 103, 29 M RSA §251, last ¶ is amended to read:

Any veteran who has lost both legs or the use of both legs and who has registered his motor vehicle without the payment of a fee as provided in this section upon certification by the Veterans Administration shall be issued a special designating plates plate to be used in addition to the regular registration plates plate. Such a designating plates plate shall be issued by the Secretary of State and shall bear the words "Disabled Veteran."

Sec. 104, 29 M RSA §252, first sentence, as amended by PL 1979, c. 74, is further amended to read:

On annual application to the Secretary of State, with the payment of \$1, any handicapped person or the spouse, parents or legal guardian of a handicapped person who has registered a motor vehicle as the motor vehicle of principal use by the handicapped person shall be issued a set-of special designating plates plate to be used in place of the regular registration plates plate or placard to be fixed to the sun visor of a motor vehicle registered by such a person.

2. CTR

Sec. 105. 29 MRSA §252, next to last ¶, first sentence, as amended by PL 1977, c. 194, §2, is further amended to read:

Any person other than a handicapped person or the spouse of a handicapped person issued a ~~set-of~~ special designating ~~plates~~ plate or placard under this section shall be subject to a \$100 fine for use of the special designating ~~plates~~ plate or placard.

Sec. 106. 29 MRSA §252, next to last ¶, last sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 16, §3, is further amended to read:

The special designating ~~plates~~ plate or placard shall be suspended if improper use is permitted.

Sec. 107. 29 MRSA §252, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 16, §4, is amended to read:

~~These~~ The special designating ~~plates~~ plate shall bear the International Symbol, easily recognizable at a distance, which indicates that the vehicle is owned by a handicapped person.

Sec. 108. 29 MRSA §252-A, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 371, §1, is amended to read:

§252-A. Disabled veterans; special free license plate

The Secretary of State on application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 shall issue a registration certificate and ~~set-of~~ a special designating ~~plates~~ plate to be used in lieu of a regular

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registration plates plate to any 100% disabled veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces in a combat zone at any time during his tenure of service when that application is accompanied by certification from the Veterans Administration as to the veteran's disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits and a copy of the appropriate military form certifying combat duty service.

These The special designating plates plate shall bear the International Symbol, easily recognizable at a distance, and the letters VET which indicates that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran.

Sec. 109. 29 MRSA §253, first ¶ is amended to read:

The Secretary of State on application shall issue, without the payment of any fee, a registration certificate and registration plates plate for a motorized invalid chair owned and operated by any invalid person when such application is accompanied by the certification of at least 2 physicians as to such person's physical incapacity.

Sec. 110. 29 MRSA §256, sub-§2, first sentence, as amended by PL 1977, c. 481, §9, is further amended to read:

All county, municipal, school and water district vehicles shall be registered with the Secretary of State who shall furnish a semipermanent plates plate for each vehicle which shall expire at the end of each 10-year semipermanent plate program.

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Sec. 29 MRSA §256, sub-§2, 3rd sentence, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 142, is amended to read:

The plate ~~or plates~~ shall be of a design determined by the Secretary of State.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting after section 94 the following:

'Sec. 29 MRSA §381, first ¶, 2nd sentence, is repealed as follows:

~~Not more than one set of number plates shall be displayed upon any vehicle, except as may be otherwise permitted by law.~~

Sec. 29 MRSA §381, 3rd ¶ is amended to read:

In the case of all motor vehicles, ~~one~~ ^{the} number plate shall be attached to ~~the front and the other to~~ the rear of said the vehicle, so that the plates ~~plate~~ and the registered number thereon shall always be plainly visible. In the case of trailers and semi-trailers, one such plate shall be attached to the rear thereof and shall be always plainly visible; except that ^a truck tractor shall display the plate on the front. ^{Each plate} ~~All plates~~ shall be kept reasonably clean and the numbers legible.

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Sec. 117. 29 MRSA §381, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 360, §§21 and 22, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

Commencing on October 1, 1981, only one number plate shall be required for each motor vehicle and that plate shall be displayed as set forth in this section.

Sec. 118. 29 MRSA §382, 2nd sentence, is amended to read:
Such temporary number plate shall conform to the register number plate and shall be displayed as nearly as possible as provided in this Title for said regular number plate, and such person shall within 24 hours after such loss or mutilation give notice thereof to the Secretary of State and apply for a new number ~~yes~~ plate.

Sec. 119. 29 MRSA §382, 3rd sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 589, §17, is further amended to read:
Thereupon the Secretary of State, if satisfied of the truth of the facts stated in the application, shall supply a new number ~~plates~~ plate upon payment of a fee of \$5 for each plate.

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Sec. 29 MRSA §382, last ¶ is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

If the Secretary of State is unable to furnish immediately to any person entitled thereto any plate or marker provided in this Title, he may issue a temporary certificate with a temporary number plate, which certificate shall be carried and that plate shall be displayed upon that vehicle in the same manner as required for regular certificates and number plates. In case the plate is lost in transportation, and the applicant shall certify in the affidavit that the plate has not been received by him and agrees that if it is (←→) received at some later date to return it forthwith, the Secretary of State, after a thorough investigation, may furnish the applicant with a 2nd plate without additional charge.

Further amend the Bill by striking out all of Part C and inserting in its place the following:

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PART C

Allocations from the Highway Fund. In order to provide for expenditures of State Government and in order to implement the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and Program Review, the sums designated in the following tabulations shall be segregated, apportioned and expended as designated in the following schedule.

<u>DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY</u>	<u>ALLOCATION FROM THE HIGHWAY FUND</u>	
	<u>1981-82</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
<u>Department of the Secretary of State</u>		
Motor Vehicles		
Unallocated	(\$139,463)	(\$150,334)
<p>Eliminates the Social-Medical Coordination program (\$22,455 in the first year and \$21,668 in the 2nd year) and provides for a reduction in allocation due to elimination of the 2nd license plate (\$104,550) and the transfer of the commercial driving school program to the Department of Business Regulation effective January 1, 1982 (\$12,458 in the first year and \$24,116 in the 2nd year).</p>		
<u>Department of Public Safety</u>		
Public Safety - Motor Vehicle		
Inspection		
Unallocated	(328,168)	(241,092)
<p>Eliminates 7 positions and associated funding for the motor vehicle inspection program which is transferred to the Division of Motor Vehicles.</p>		
State Police		
Positions	(-4)	(-4)
Unallocated	(99,731)	(96,477)
<p>Eliminates 4 positions and associated funding for the motor vehicle inspection program which is transferred to the Division of Motor Vehicles.</p>		
<u>TOTAL PART C -</u>	<u>(\$567,362)</u>	<u>(\$487,903)</u>

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Further amend the Bill by renumbering section 92 to 146 to read consecutively.

Fiscal Note

This amendment would result in a \$104,500 savings to the Highway Fund in each year of the biennium.

Statement of Fact

This amendment establishes a single license plate system in Maine.

Filed by Mrs. Berube of Lewiston.
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of the House.

5/6/81

(Filing No. H-307)