

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1258

H.P. 833

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

**An Act to Include Qualified Out-of-state Electric Vehicle Providers
and Clarify Provisions Regarding Electric Bicycles Under the
Electric Vehicle Fund**

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative WARREN of Scarborough.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10126, sub-§1, ¶A-2** is enacted to read:

3 A-2. "Eligible electric vehicle provider" means:

4 (1) An authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer in the State or
5 an authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer located outside of
6 the State that meets all of the requirements applicable to in-state authorized
7 licensees of the original equipment manufacturer as determined by the trust;

8 (2) A licensed automobile dealer in the State or a licensed automobile dealer
9 located outside of the State that meets all of the requirements applicable to in-state
10 licensed automobile dealerships as determined by the trust; and

11 (3) The original equipment manufacturer, wherever located.

12 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10126, sub-§3**, as corrected by RR 2023, c. 2, Pt. A, §56, is
13 amended to read:

14 **3. ~~Incentive~~ Electric vehicle incentive program established; eligibility.** In
15 accordance with the provisions of this section, the trust shall establish and administer a
16 program that provides incentives for the purchase or lease of electric vehicles. A person
17 may apply for and, as resources within the fund allow, receive an incentive for an electric
18 vehicle, subject to eligibility requirements established by the trust. Eligibility criteria for
19 the vehicle must include that the vehicle is a battery electric vehicle or a plug-in hybrid
20 electric vehicle; the vehicle is purchased, or leased for a term of 36 months or more, from
21 an ~~authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer or a licensed automobile~~
22 ~~dealer in the State or from its original equipment manufacturer, wherever located~~ eligible
23 electric vehicle provider; and, to the extent required by Title 29-A, chapter 5, the vehicle is
24 registered in the State. An automobile, as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 7,
25 with a gross vehicle weight rating of 6,000 pounds or less is not eligible for the program if
26 it has a manufacturer's suggested retail price greater than \$55,000. To the extent funds are
27 available, the trust may extend program eligibility to medium duty vehicles and heavy duty
28 vehicles that are battery electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and to electric
29 bicycles in accordance with subsection 3-A. Eligibility requirements for the recipient of
30 the incentive must include that the recipient attests to a commitment to maintain a
31 registration in this State to the extent required by Title 29-A, chapter 5, whether through
32 purchase or lease, of the eligible electric vehicle for at least 36 months from the date of
33 purchase or lease. The trust may require a recipient of an incentive under this section who
34 does not maintain a registration in this State of the eligible electric vehicle for at least 36
35 months to repay the trust up to the full amount of the incentive. ~~If the trust extends program~~
36 ~~eligibility to electric bicycles, the trust shall limit the electric bicycle incentives to~~
37 ~~recipients who are low-income and moderate-income individuals and to entities that serve~~
38 ~~those individuals, as determined by the trust. For a recipient to receive an incentive for the~~
39 ~~purchase of an electric bicycle under the program, the electric bicycle must serve as the~~
40 ~~recipient's principal means of commuting, as determined by the trust.~~

41 The trust shall establish the incentive amount for each eligible electric vehicle. The trust
42 shall establish incentive amounts that it determines most effectively increase the use of
43 eligible electric vehicles in the State to advance the State's carbon reduction targets and
44 reduce transportation-related energy costs. For each model of an eligible electric vehicle,

1 the trust may establish different incentive amounts based on the size of the vehicle battery.
2 The trust may establish different incentive amounts for the purpose of providing reasonable
3 opportunity for participation in the program across different customer groups and
4 geographic areas. The trust may establish reasonable limits on the number of incentives
5 per vehicle or per person.

6 **Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §10126, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

7 **3-A. Electric bicycle incentive; eligibility.** If the trust extends the electric vehicle
8 incentive program eligibility under subsection 3 to electric bicycles, the trust shall establish
9 eligibility criteria that include the following.

10 A. An electric bicycle incentive recipient must be a low-income or moderate-income
11 individual or an entity that serves low-income or moderate-income individuals, as
12 determined by the trust.

13 B. The electric bicycle for which the recipient is receiving the incentive must serve as
14 the recipient's principal means of commuting, as determined by the trust.

15 C. The electric bicycle must be purchased, or leased for a term of 36 months or more,
16 from:

17 (1) An authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer in the State;

18 (2) An authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer located outside
19 of the State that meets all the requirements applicable to in-state authorized
20 licensees of the original equipment manufacturer, as determined by the the trust;
21 or

22 (3) The original equipment manufacturer, wherever located.

23 SUMMARY

24 This bill amends the law establishing the Electric Vehicle Fund incentive program to
25 include that an electric vehicle may also be purchased or leased from an out-of-state
26 authorized licensee of the original equipment manufacturer or an out-of-state licensed
27 automobile dealer if the seller or lessor meets all requirements applicable to in-state sellers
28 or lessors as determined by the trust. For a vehicle to be eligible for the incentive program
29 under current law, a purchase or lease from an authorized licensee of the original equipment
30 manufacturer or a licensed automobile dealer must be from licensees or dealers located in
31 the State. The bill also clarifies the eligibility requirements applicable to incentives for
32 electric bicycles under the incentive program.