

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1659

H.P. 1100

House of Representatives, April 15, 2025

**An Act to Raise Revenue to Fund Firefighting Equipment Purchases  
and Training Related to Electric Vehicle Fires Through a Fee on  
Electric Vehicles**

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Reference to the Committee on Housing and Economic Development suggested and  
ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HYMES of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and  
Representatives: GUERRETTE of Caribou, LANCE of Paris, LEMELIN of Chelsea.

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

2               **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3374** is enacted to read:

3       **§3374. Electric Vehicle Firefighting Fund**

4               **1. Fund established.** The Electric Vehicle Firefighting Fund, referred to in this section  
5       as "the fund," is established as a nonlapsing fund that is administered by the commission  
6       to provide funds to fire departments in the State to purchase equipment and provide training  
7       related to electric vehicle fires.

8               **2. Grant program.** The commission shall establish criteria to award grants to fire  
9       departments from the fund. The commission may adopt rules to implement this subsection.  
10       Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,  
11       chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

12               **3. Procedure.** A fire department may apply to the commission for a grant. The  
13       commission shall evaluate each application pursuant to the criteria developed in subsection  
14       2 and, to the extent funds are available, shall award grants from the fund to support the  
15       purchase of equipment or training related to electric vehicle fires.

16               **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA c. 727** is enacted to read:

17                               **CHAPTER 727**

18                               **ELECTRIC VEHICLE FEE**

19       **§4961. Electric vehicle fee**

20               **1. Fee imposed.** A fee of \$250 is levied upon the sale in this State of a new or used  
21       battery electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle by a dealer. For purposes of this  
22       chapter, "dealer" has the same meaning as in Title 29-A, section 851, subsection 2. For  
23       purposes of this subsection, "battery electric vehicle" and "plug-in hybrid electric vehicle"  
24       have the same meaning as in Title 35-A, section 10126, subsection 1, paragraphs A and D,  
25       respectively.

26               **2. Collection of revenue.** On or before the 15th day of each month, the Secretary of  
27       State shall collect on behalf of the State Tax Assessor the revenue received by the dealer  
28       pursuant to subsection 1. The revenue collected must be deposited into the Electric Vehicle  
29       Firefighting Fund established by Title 5, section 3374.

30                               **SUMMARY**

31               This bill establishes the Electric Vehicle Firefighting Fund to provide funds to fire  
32       departments in the State to purchase equipment and provide training related to electric  
33       vehicle fires. The bill also establishes a fee of \$250 on the sale of new and used electric  
34       vehicles by a dealer. The bill requires revenue from the fee to be collected by the Secretary  
35       of State on behalf of the State Tax Assessor and deposited into the Electric Vehicle  
36       Firefighting Fund.