

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1057

S. P. 522

In Senate, April 17, 1937.

Read once, rules suspended and tabled by Senator Laughlin of Cumberland pending adoption of Senate Amendment A.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT To Establish Organized Highway Accident Prevention Work as
a Function of the Maine State Police**

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

Sec. 1. Statement of policy. This act is designed to create a division of safety in the Maine State Police Department to provide facilities for the study, investigation and prevention of accidents on the streets and highways.

Sec. 2. Appointment of supervisor. The division of safety shall be supervised by a qualified person, to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for a term of 5 years and shall hold office until his successor is appointed and qualified and shall be paid a salary to be determined by the governor with the advice and consent of the council and also his necessary traveling expenses. Adequate quarters shall be provided. He shall appoint such assistants as may be required for the work of the division and such assistants shall work under the supervision and direction of said supervisor and shall be paid their necessary travelling expenses in addition to their salaries. All expenses shall be audited and paid as provided by law.

Sec. 3. Work of division. The division shall study accident causes, collect and publish accident statistics, prepare and disseminate information

relating to the prevention of motor vehicle accidents; advise and assist all state departments and officers, municipalities, organizations, schools and individuals in street and highway accident prevention; assist with the development of accident prevention programs in schools, design, supervise and direct a complete program for the reduction of motor vehicle accidents on the streets and highways of this state and make such investigations as the governor and legislature may order.

Sec. 4. Authorized to gather facts and statistics. The supervisor or an authorized agent shall have access to court records, state and municipal records for the purpose of gathering facts, statistics and other information such as pertains to accident investigation or prevention and such as is contemplated by this act.

Sec. 5. Officers required to furnish information. All state, county, city and town officers are hereby directed to furnish to the supervisor or his authorized agent, upon request, such statistical or other information contemplated by this act as shall be in their possession as such officers.

Sec. 6. Financing of division. The secretary of state shall designate an adequate number of garages as official inspection stations for the purpose of inspecting motor vehicles as to proper condition of lights, brakes, horn or other signalling device, steering mechanism, and as to the proper location of rear-view mirrors and number plates, and as provided by the motor vehicle laws.

Every person, firm and corporation desiring to operate an official inspection station shall file an application for a certificate of appointment with the secretary of state. The secretary of state may authorize any or all of the members of the state police to furnish instructions, and to supervise official inspection and adjustment stations for corrections, adjustments, repairs and inspection of motor vehicles.

It is further provided that those accepting appointment to operate official inspection stations thereby agree to conduct the inspection of a vehicle for the sum of 50c for each vehicle inspected, said sum not to include labor for correcting faults in lights, brakes, horn or other signalling device, steering mechanism and as for the proper location of rear-view mirrors and number plates as provided by the motor vehicle laws and it is further agreed that those accepting an appointment to operate an official inspection station agree to make such reports as the secretary of state may deem necessary. It is further agreed that an official inspection sticker be applied to the windshield of each vehicle inspected and found to be in proper mechanical condition according to the motor vehicle laws of the state,

said inspection stickers to be purchased from the secretary of state for the sum of 10c each.

The secretary of state shall have the authority to revoke the certificate of appointment of any official inspection station failing to comply with the provisions of this act.

The secretary of state shall have printed and sell official inspection stickers to official inspection stations for the sum of 10c each, all monies so obtained to be turned over to the state treasurer for deposit in a special account to be known as the "Highway Safety Fund," said fund to be expended by the supervisor for the purposes as set forth in section 3 of this act.

All motor vehicles shall have at least 2 inspections each year by an official inspection station as to the proper condition of lights, brakes, horn or other signalling device, steering mechanism, and as to the proper location of rear-view mirrors and number plates, and as provided by the motor vehicle laws, one inspection to be during the month of May and another inspection during the month of October.

Whoever upon any way or in any place to which the public has the right of access operates any vehicle without a proper official inspection sticker affixed to the windshield thereof as set forth herein shall be guilty of operating such vehicle while it was in improper condition and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$25 or by imprisonment for not more than 10 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Provided, however, that this act shall not apply to out of state vehicles which can show proof of having been inspected in some other state within the last 6 months.

Sec. 7. Unexpended balances. All unexpended balances remaining at the end of any fiscal year, shall be carried over on the account of the department to be expended in the succeeding year for the purposes provided for in this act.

Sec. 8. Repealing clause. All acts and resolves inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed, but nothing in this act is intended to limit the jurisdiction, or otherwise interfere with the present functions of the police forces, the state highway commission or the motor vehicle division of the office of secretary of state.