

## LAWS

#### OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE

#### AS PASSED BY THE

#### ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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## PUBLIC LAWS

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#### CHAPTER 194

#### AN ACT Relating to Motor Vehicle Registrations of Handicapped Persons.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, handicapped persons often are dependent upon motor vehicles owned and registered in the name of their spouse; and

Whereas, the motor vehicle registered in the name of a non-handicapped spouse cannot bear special plates or placards designating that the occupant or user is handicapped; and

Whereas, this creates a greater burden and severe inconvenience for handicapped persons using or riding in their spouse's motor vehicle; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 252, 1st sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 16, § 1, is further amended to read:

On annual application to the Secretary of State, with the payment of \$1, any handicapped person or the spouse 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 to be used in place of the regular registration plates or placard to be fixed to the sun visor of a motor vehicle registered by such a person.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 252, 4th ¶, 1st sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 16, § 3, 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 or placard under this section shall be subject to a \$100 fine for use of the special designating plates or placard.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.