MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to June 15, 1979

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Kennebec Journal Augusta, Maine 1979

PUBLIC LAWS

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1979

boundary of Baxter State Park, to the intersection of said road with the road from Dwelly Pond and McCarthy's to the end of the designated state aid road in T. 6, R. 8, Penobscot County, as much as shall be deemed necessary for their maintenance, including bridges and culverts, but not to exceed \$32,000 per year, some portions of the above described being private roads, open to the public.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1979-80

BAXTER STATE PARK AUTHORITY

Unallocated \$22,500

These funds shall be used in accordance with Sec. 1 to replace Nesowadnehunk Bridge no. 1 and to repair Little Nesowadnehunk Bridge. Funds not expended for these purposes shall be carried forward for use during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980. The funds provided in this Act shall be in addition to the funds authorized in Sec. 2.

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

Effective June 25, 1979

CHAPTER 552

H. P. 767 — L. D. 970

AN ACT to Provide for Staggered Registration for Motor Trucks.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 106, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 481, § 5, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 106. Expiration date

The registration year for all vehicles except automobiles, newly acquired motor trucks and truck tractors shall be from March 1st to the last day of February of the next calendar year. On and after February 1st, it shall be lawful to use and display on such vehicles the number plates or suitable devices in lieu thereof issued for the registration year.

- 1. New motor truck and truck tractor registrations. New motor truck and truck tractor registrations shall expire at the end of the month one year from the month of issuance.
- 2. Automobile registrations and reregistrations. Automobile registrations and reregistrations shall be in accordance with this subsection.
 - A. Automobile registrations shall expire annually on the last day of the month, one year from the month of issuance.
 - B. When application for reregistration of an automobile is made after the registration for the previous year has been expired for 2 months or more, the expiration date of the renewal shall be at the end of the month, one year from the month of issuance.
 - C. Any person who has a fleet of 5 or more automobiles may petition the Secretary of State for an expiration date of all automobiles in the fleet.
- 3. Number plates. Number plates 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. 2. 29 MRSA § 152, last paragraph, 1st sentence, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 588, § 3, is amended to read:

No portion of any fee paid for an automobile, **motor truck or truck tractor** once paid in any registration year shall be repaid any person but shall remain as full credit towards the registration of another vehicle, in place of the one represented by the surrendered registration.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 153, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 788, § 126, is amended to read:

§ 153. Proration after November 1st

On any application for registration applied for by an owner or the owner's surviving spouse of a vehicle, except an automobile, **motor truck or truck tractor**, not including a log hauler or traction engine, during the period between the first day of November and the last day of February, 1/2 the registration fee shall be charged: on On an application for a registration for an automobile, **motor truck or truck tractor** made during the last 4 months of a registration year, 1/2 the registration fee shall be charged.

- **Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 242, sub-§ 1, ¶A-1,** as enacted by PL 1973, c. 588, § 5, is repealed.
- Sec. 5. 29 MRSA § 1755, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 193, is amended to read:

In addition, every vehicle carrying logs during During the hours when lights are required, every owner of a vehicle carrying logs which project more than 5 feet from the rear of the vehicle, shall be required to display a red reflector or to paint reflectorized paint on the end of the log projecting furthest to the rear. Such The reflector or reflectorized paint shall be deemed inadequate unless of sufficient size, properly located and maintained so as to reflect, at night on an unlighted highway for at least 200 feet, the lawful undimmed headlights of a vehicle approaching from the rear.

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 553

S. P. 358 — L. D. 1106

AN ACT to Establish a Protection and Advocacy System for the Developmentally Disabled of the State of Maine.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 3067, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 457, § 1, is amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

These rules shall include procedures for assuring access to records by the Protection and Advocacy Agency for the Developmentally Disabled in Maine designated under chapter 961 pursuant to an investigation of alleged rights violations.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA c. 961 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 961

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY FOR THE

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

§ 3551. Policy

It is the policy of the State to assure the legal and human rights of all developmentally disabled persons residing in the State through the establishment of a protection and advocacy system as required by the United States Code, Title 42, section 6012.

The Governor of the State shall designate an agency, independent of any state or