

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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September 29, 1942

Frank I. Cowan, Attorney General

A. L. Kane, State Controller

In re Reimbursement for Auto Storage

I have your memorandum of September 26th asking whether you can permit reimbursement to owners of private cars for storage of their cars when they are away from their official headquarters on State business and the usual or regular storage place is not available.

It is my opinion that the statute in regard to auto mileage did not contemplate auto storage. Today the tires of an automobile and the gas in its tank have a value that it is almost impossible to measure in dollars and cents. The owner is justified in using every reasonable means for their preservation and will ordinarily refuse to use his car on State business unless the State is willing to pay that reasonable amount for preservation. He is, therefore, justified in assuming that when he uses his automobile on State business away from home, he can store the car nights in a safe place and you can properly approve that charge *cost* providing it is for a reasonable amount.

Attorney General

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