

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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August 4, 1960

George Davis, Chairman

Maine Automobile Dealers  
Registration Board  
Attorney General

George A. Wathen, Assistant

**Transit Registration Plates - Mobile Homes**

I have your request for an opinion regarding the use of transit registration plates by mobile home dealers.

Section 26-A, Chapter 22, Revised Statutes of 1954, provides as follows:

"Finance companies, heavy equipment dealers, farm machinery dealers, trailer dealers, semi-trailer dealers, dealers in mobile homes, junk dealers and service stations may make application to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Registration Board. . . for the purpose of movement on highways of such vehicles owned or controlled by them."

Section 26-A further states:

". . . In no event shall any plates issued under this section be used in lieu of registration plates issued under sections 13 to 20. . ."

Your queries are as follows:

"(1) Can a dealer in mobilehomes legally use his transit plate on a towing unit which is specifically designed to haul the mobile home?"

Answer: Yes, Section 26-A authorizes such movement.

"(2) Can the dealer in mobile homes use a transit plate on a passenger vehicle which is equipped with a trailer hitch so that it is possible to use it for the purpose of hauling certain mobile homes?"

Answer: Yes, Section 26-A.

"(3) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, can he use such automobile bearing such transit plate for any other purpose than to transport a mobile home?"

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**Answer:** If the special towing unit is a truck or tractor, it can be used for the purposes set forth in Section 29, subsection 1, Chapter 22; otherwise, no.

**"(4) Can he use the transit plate on a service truck which is used to service mobile homes?"**

**Answer:** No. A mobile home does not fit the definition of a motor vehicle which is the only type of vehicle that the use of a transit plate is authorized under Section 29, subsection 1, Chapter 22.

**"(5) Can he use such transit plate on his own passenger vehicle which is used partially in connection with the business of buying and selling mobile homes and partially for personal use?"**

**Answer:** No. The plates are issued to facilitate the movement of vehicles being delivered, sold and traded, not to exempt a particular type of business from registration pursuant to Sections 13 - 20, Chapter 22. The auto could be used as stated in query No. 2 but for no other purpose.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**George A. Wathen  
Assistant Attorney General**

**gaw/n**