

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

Inter-Departmental Memorandum Date June 17, 1974

To Charles E. Wyman, Director

Dept. Motor Vehicle Division

From Leon W. Walker, Jr., Assistant

Dept. Attorney General

Subject Maine Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title and Anti-Theft Act

You have forwarded copies of correspondence between attorney W. Scott Carlisle, II and yourself concerning the necessity for obtaining a title certificate for mobile homes and house trailers under reference Act (29 M.R.S.A., c. 21, sub-C.II), indicating an apparent difference of opinion.

Under 29 M.R.S.A. § 2362, sub-§6, no certificate of title need be obtained for any trailer with an unladen weight of 1500 pounds or less. There is no disagreement about this. There undoubtedly would be no disagreement that trailers above that weight must have a certificate of title when they are to be customarily used on the highways.

The question arises with regard to a mobile home or trailer, which is to be taken from the dealer's premises to a lot of land and there used as a house.

We agree with your opinion that the "first registration" required by 29 M.R.S.A. § 2363 refers to the procedure for the issuance of permanent plates to vehicles for operation on the highways.

In the above example, the mobile home or trailer may be moved over the road with the use of a temporary plate issued by the dealer under 29 M.R.S.A. § 363. This would not constitute a "first registration", and would not require a certificate of title.

LWJ
LVWJr/mf

AN INFORMAL OPINION