

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 907

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H. P. 730

House of Representatives, March 5, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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AN ACT Relating to Motor Vehicle Fees.

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 152, first sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 588, § 2, is amended to read:

Whoever transfers the ownership or discontinues the use of a registered motor vehicle, trailer or ~~automobile semitrailer~~ and applies to the Secretary of State for registration of another motor vehicle, trailer or ~~automobile semitrailer~~ in the same registration year shall be entitled to a certificate of registration permitting the use of number plates of the proper class of registration thereon upon payment of a transfer fee of ~~\$2~~ \$5, provided the fee is the same as that of the former vehicle.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 152, 2nd sentence is amended to read:

If the fee for the vehicle to be registered is greater, he shall pay in addition to the transfer fee of ~~\$2~~ \$5 the difference between the fee paid by him for the vehicle first registered and the fee for the vehicle to which the transfer is to be made.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 191, first ¶, as amended by PL 1973, c. 73, is further amended to read:

~~The~~ Except in the case of automobiles, the Secretary of State shall reserve until ~~the~~ November 1st preceding the year for which plates are issued the same registration number for the succeeding year for persons who shall, previous to said first day of November, pay for the registration of his vehicle for the succeeding year and otherwise comply with the motor vehicle law. In the

case of automobiles, the same registration number shall be reserved until the first day of the 3rd month prior to their expiration. If a person wishes to retain his registration number and does not have a ~~car~~ vehicle to register on said November 1st, or on the first day of the 3rd month prior to the expiration month in the case of automobiles, he may hold his registration number for a maximum of 2 registration years by depositing with the Secretary of State the sum of \$10 for each year. These deposit fees shall not be applied as part payment of the registration fee when plates are issued.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 191, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

All numbers other than those reserved shall be released and issued in rotation after said November 1st, or after the first day of the 3rd month prior to expiration in the case of automobiles, except that a person wishing to select a number out of rotation may do so by paying his registration fee and a reserved number fee of ~~\$7~~ \$5.

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA § 192, 2nd ¶, first sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1967, c. 22, is amended to read:

The registration plates so provided shall be issued only upon application therefor, and upon payment of an annual service fee of ~~\$5~~ \$10.

Sec. 6. 29 MRSA § 241, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 469, § 3, is further amended to read:

§ 241. Fees for replacement number plates and inserts

Replacement number plates shall be furnished to replace lost or mutilated plates for ~~\$2~~ \$5 each.

Replacement ~~revalidation~~ registration validation devices for number plates shall be furnished to replace lost or mutilated ~~revalidation~~ validation devices for 50¢ each.

Sec. 7. 29 MRSA § 242, sub-§ 1, ¶ D, 3rd ¶, 2nd sentence is amended to read:

A fee of ~~\$5~~ \$10 shall accompany each such application.

Sec. 8. 29 MRSA § 244, sub-§ 1, first ¶, as amended by PL 1967, c. 245, § 8, is further amended to read:

Equipped with	Per 100 lbs. gross weight of vehicle and load	up to and including 2,000 lbs. gross weight
Pneumatic tires . . . . .	15 cents	
Solid rubber tires . . . . .	40 cents	
Iron, steel or hard tires . . . . .	75 cents	

Sec. 9. 29 MRSA § 244, sub-§ 1, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

The ~~minimum~~ fee shall ~~never~~ be less than ~~\$2~~ \$5 for a gross weight not to exceed 2,000 pounds. The maximum fee for all farm trailers, whether semi-

trailers or 4-wheeled type, equipped with pneumatic tires, shall be ~~\$2~~ \$5 for each trailer when the said trailers are used and to be used by farmers for the sole and exclusive purpose of transporting their own farm products, crops, fertilizers and farm tools and utensils and subject to the further conditions and limitations that

**Sec. 10.** 29 MRSA § 244, 7th ¶ from the end, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 245, § 9, is amended to read:

Camp trailers, ~~registered~~ in excess of 2,000 lbs. gross weight, shall be assessed a registration fee of ~~\$5~~ \$10.

**Sec. 11.** 29 MRSA § 245, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

Semitrailer ..... ~~\$5~~ \$10 each.

**Sec. 12.** 29 MRSA § 245-A, first ¶, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 133, is further amended to read:

The fee for such plate shall be ~~\$5~~ \$10 for each registration year, or portion thereof, for the number of years of valid use from the year of issue to the end of the semipermanent plate program; and there shall be no refund of payment of such fee.

**Sec. 13.** 29 MRSA § 245-A, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 448, § 1, is amended to read:

Provisions of this section shall not prohibit the succeeding Legislatures from increasing the base fee of ~~\$5~~ \$10 per year, or portion thereof; and registrants shall make additional payment to the State, under any new rate enacted, for the remaining period of plates originally issued, to the end of the semipermanent plate program.

**Sec. 14.** 29 MRSA § 249, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

Motorcycles ..... ~~\$5~~ \$10 each.

**Sec. 15.** 29 MRSA § 347, first and 2nd sentences, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 529, § 1, are amended to read:

Except as sections 357 and 358 provide, the annual fee for every license shall be ~~\$25~~ \$30. The annual fee for plates shall be ~~\$10~~ \$15 per plate, except that on application for additional plates applied for during the period between the first day of September and the 31st day of December in any year, ½ of the plate fee shall be charged.

**Sec. 16.** 29 MRSA § 363, last ¶, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 625, § 291, is further amended to read:

The Secretary of State may issue temporary plates and certificates to dealers who request them under such rules and regulations as he shall deem necessary and shall receive ~~50¢~~ \$1 per plate.

**Sec. 17.** 29 MRSA § 382, first ¶, last sentence, as amended by PL 1971, c. 104, § 7, is further amended to read:

Thereupon the Secretary of State, if satisfied of the truth of the facts stated in the application, shall supply a new set of number plates upon payment of a fee of ~~2~~ \$5 for each plate.

Sec. 18. 29 MRSA § 531, 3rd ¶, last 2 sentences are repealed as follows:

~~The fee for each such examination shall be \$3. The fee for each subsequent examination shall be \$2~~

Sec. 19. 29 MRSA § 532, 4th ¶, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 360, § 26, is further amended to read:

The fee for said motorcycle or motor driven cycle learner's permit shall be ~~2~~ \$5 which shall include the first road test. The fee for all subsequent examinations shall be ~~2~~ \$3.

Sec. 20. 29 MRSA § 541, as last amended by PL 1969, c. 69, is further amended to read:

#### § 541. Duplicate licenses

In the event that an operator's license, registration ~~card~~ certificate or instruction permit issued under this Title shall be lost or destroyed, the person to whom the same was issued may obtain a duplicate or substitute upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the Secretary of State that such license, ~~card~~ certificate or instruction permit has been lost or destroyed and upon payment of a fee of ~~1~~ \$2.

If the Secretary of State is satisfied that public safety will not be endangered, he may issue, upon payment of a fee of ~~1~~ \$2, a duplicate of such license, registration or permit to a person who has an original license.

Sec. 21. 29 MRSA § 582, as amended by PL 1965, c. 129, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

#### § 582. Fee; waiver

The Secretary of State may waive examination in the case of applicants who have been duly licensed by this State to operate a motor vehicle during any one of the 3 preceding calendar years without a lapse of 3 years since date of expiration of last license. Any person required to take an examination to qualify him to operate a motor vehicle shall pay an examination fee to the Secretary of State prior to such examination being given. Such fee shall be for the purpose of defraying the expense of giving such examination and shall be according to the class of license for which application was made as follows:

1. Class 1 or 2 license. The examination fee shall be \$8, which shall include the first road test. All subsequent examination fees shall be \$5.

2. Class 3 license. The examination fee shall be \$5, which shall include the first road test. All subsequent examination fees shall be \$3.

3. Exception. Any person required to take such examination because of advanced age or physical disability shall not be required to pay said examination fee.

**Sec. 22.** 29 MRSA § 2013, sub-§ 1, ¶ E, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 780, § 4, is amended to read:

E. Must pass such examination as the Secretary of State shall prescribe to determine his ability to operate the specific vehicle which will be driven as a school bus or any comparable type vehicle. Application for such examination shall be filed within 10 days after commencement of such operation. A fee of ~~€3~~ \$8 shall accompany the application for such examination. The fee for subsequent examinations shall be ~~\$2~~ \$5.

**Sec. 23. Effective date.** Sections 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 shall become effective for the 1976 registration year.

#### FISCAL NOTE

If this Act is enacted in its entirety, it is projected that it would result in an increase in income to the General Highway Fund of \$5.66 million for fiscal years 1976 and 1977.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act would increase the fees for certain registrations, licenses, permits and replacements for same which have been lost. Also, this bill would reduce the cost to the State of administering driver examinations. Examination fees have not changed since 1963 and are therefore not consistent with the increased administration costs. Class 1, 2 and school bus examinations require 3 times longer per examination than the regular automobile tests.