

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 2066**

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S. P. 649

In Senate, January 23, 1976

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Greeley of Waldo.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT** Relating to the Refund of Fees on Certain Unused Semitrailer Registrations.

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there are presently numerous situations in which semitrailer license plates and registrations have been returned to the Secretary of State and it is clear that these plates and registrations are unused; and

Whereas, the Secretary of State is presently authorized by statute to refund the full fee paid for the registration of all motor vehicles except semitrailers, if he is satisfied that such registrations and license plates are unused; and

Whereas, because of the aforesaid absence of statutory authority, the Secretary of State is unable to give such refunds on unused semitrailer registrations, which has created an inequitable situation that results in a discrimination against the owners of semitrailers which could result in the ultimate loss of semitrailer registrations to other states and an attendant loss of revenue to the State of Maine; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

29 MRSA § 245-A, 1st ¶, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 589, § 12, is further amended to read:

The fee for such plate shall be \$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, except that when such a plate is returned and the Secretary of State is satisfied that it is unused, the total fee paid at the time of the issuance of the returned plate and registration shall be refunded.

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

#### FISCAL NOTE

Passage of this bill will result in a loss to the Highway Fund of \$20,000 for each full fiscal year.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is stated in the Emergency Preamble.