

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 554

H. P. 448

House of Representatives, February 17, 1977

On motion of Mr. Carroll of Limerick, referred to the Committee on Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and 2,000 copies ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Establish Half Rate for Registration and Excise Fees at the
Midpoint in the Registration Year.**

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 152, 2nd ¶, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 588, § 3, is further amended to read:

No portion of any fee once paid in any calendar year shall be repaid to any person, but from March 1st to ~~November~~ **September** 1st in the same calendar year any amount paid for registration of a vehicle shall remain as full credit toward the registration of another vehicle in place of the one represented by the surrendered registration, and from ~~November~~ **September** 1st to the last day of February such credit shall not exceed ½ of the amount of the original fee, except that the foregoing shall not apply to the registration of automobiles.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 152, 3rd ¶, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 588, § 3, is further amended to read:

For the last ~~4~~ 6 months in the same registration year such credit shall not exceed ½ the amount of the original fee.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 153, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 788, § 126, is amended to read:

§ 153. Proration after September 1st

On any application for registration applied for by an owner or the owner's surviving spouse of a vehicle, except an automobile, not including a log hauler or traction engine, during the period between the first day of ~~Novem-~~

~~be~~ September and the last day of February, $\frac{1}{2}$ the registration fee shall be charged; on an application for a registration for an automobile made during the last ~~4~~ 6 months of a registration year, $\frac{1}{2}$ the registration fee shall be charged.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 246, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 623, § 44-A, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 36 MRSA § 1482, sub-§ 2, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 765, § 18, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Tax $\frac{1}{2}$ during certain periods. The excise tax levied in this section shall be $\frac{1}{2}$ of the sum named in subsection 1 from September 1st to the last day of February, except the excise tax levied in this section on automobiles shall be, during the last 6 months of a registration year, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the sum named in subsection 1, paragraph C.

Sec. 6. Effective date. This Act shall become effective on February 1, 1978.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to establish half-rates of registration and excise fees for those people registering vehicles at the midpoint in the registration year. Presently anyone registering a vehicle 6 months prior to the expiration date will have to pay registration and excise fees for the full year. The half-rate payment is not currently allowed until 4 months prior to expiration. Under present law only farm equipment is allowed this 6-month half-rate payment and it would seem logical to bring all motor vehicles under this provision.