

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 786

H. P. 635 House of Representatives, February 26, 1979
On Motion of Mr. Carroll of Limerick, referred to the Committee on
Transportation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cunningham of New Gloucester.

Cosponsors: Mr. Dow of West Gardiner, Mrs. Reeves of Pittston and Miss
K. Brown of Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT Concerning the Categories of "Horseless Carriage" and "Antique Motor
Car" under the Motor Vehicle Statutes.**

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 1, sub-§ 1-A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 731,
§ 19, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1-A. Antique motor car. "Antique motor car" means any motor vehicle
manufactured after December 31, 1915, which is over 25 years old, which is
equipped with an engine manufactured either at the same time as the vehicle or to
the specifications of the original engine of the vehicle, which is maintained
primarily for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades and other functions of
public interest and which is not used as its owner's primary mode of
transportation of passengers or goods.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA § 1, sub-§ 3-E is enacted to read:

3-E. Horseless carriage. "Horseless carriage" means any motor vehicle
made on or before December 31, 1915, which is equipped with an engine
manufactured either at the same time as the vehicle or to the specifications of the
original engine of the vehicle, which is maintained primarily for use in

exhibitions, club activities, parades and other functions of public interest and which is not used as its owner's primary mode of transportation of passengers or goods.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA § 114, last ¶ is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

The Secretary of State is authorized to issue registration plates for antique motor cars. These plates shall be red, shall contain the outline of a Stanley Steamer and shall bear the inscription in white letters "Antique Motor Car" and "State of Maine." The fee for the registration of an antique motor car shall be \$7.50 per year.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA § 114-A is enacted to read:

§ 114-A. Horseless carriage

The registration of a horseless carriage as described in section 1 shall be upon a form prescribed by the Secretary of State. This registration shall be accompanied by an affidavit provided by the Secretary of State, which affidavit shall include a statement of the age and intended use of that motor vehicle and that the applicant is a resident of the State.

The Secretary of State is authorized to issue registration plates for horseless carriages. These plates shall be red, shall contain the outline of a Stanley Steamer and shall bear the inscription in white letters "Horseless Carriage" and "State of Maine."

The fee for the registration of a horseless carriage shall be \$7.50 per year.

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA § 192, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 589, § 5, is further amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:

The Secretary of State is further authorized to design and to issue, under such rules as he deems appropriate, initial type registration plates or combination of initials and numeric type registration plates to be used on horseless carriages or antique motor cars in place of the registration plates normally used on those vehicles. These plates shall be of such design and shall bear such letters or numbers as the Secretary of State shall prescribe, but there shall be no duplication of identification.

Sec. 6. 29 MRSA § 2122, 6th ¶ is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

This section shall not apply to farm tractors which are manufactured as such, nor to horseless carriages or to antique motor cars.

Sec. 7. 29 MRSA § 2127, sub-§ 2, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 80, is further amended to read:

2. **Prohibitions.** No person shall operate any motor vehicle, except an antique motor car, horseless carriage, motor vehicle using liquefied petroleum gas as

engine fuel or farm tractor, upon any highway of this State if any operational element of the air pollution control system of such vehicle has been removed, dismantled or otherwise rendered inoperative or in other than good working order.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes a new category of motor vehicle for the purposes of the motor vehicle statutes: The category of horseless carriage. A horseless carriage is a motor vehicle manufactured on or before December 31, 1915.

The bill further provides that a horseless carriage, or an antique motor car, which must be at least 25 years old, must contain the original engine manufactured with the vehicle or an engine conforming to the specifications of the original engine, and must not be its owner's primary mode of transportation of passengers or goods.

The bill further provides for special identification plates for horseless carriages and antique motor cars, while permitting the owners of horseless carriages or antique motor cars to purchase special initial plates like every other car owner.

Finally, the bill exempts both horseless carriages and antique motor cars from the motor vehicle inspection statutes.