

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2412
(Filing No. H-673)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
111TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1820, L.D. 2412,
Bill, "AN ACT to Amend Certain Motor Vehicle Laws."

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 11.

Further amend the bill by striking out all of
section 18.

Further amend the bill by renumbering the sec-
tions to read consecutively.

STATEMENT OF FACT

These provisions prohibit obscuring the motto on
motor vehicle license plates and clearly violate the
United States Constitution based upon the following.

The United States Supreme Court considered the
license plate motto question in the New Hampshire
case of Wooley v. Maynard, 430 U.S. 705, 97 S.Ct.
1428, 51 L.Ed.2d. 752 (1977). The New Hampshire
statute prohibited obscuring the motto "Live Free or
Die" and imposed a penalty for doing so. The United
States Supreme Court held that enforcement of the law
violated the individual's First Amendment free speech
rights. The court held : "We conclude that the State
of New Hampshire may not require appellees to display

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1820, L.D. 2412

1 the state motto upon their vehicle license plates
2 and, accordingly, we affirm the judgment of the Dis-
3 trict Court." Wooley v. Maynard, 430 U.S. 705, 717,
4 51 L.Ed.2d 752, 764 (1977).

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Filed by Rep. Allen of Washington
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4/9/84 (Filing No. H-673)