

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1178  
6

7 H.P. 834

House of Representatives, March 29, 1985

8 Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 24.  
9 Speaker laid before the House and referred to the Committee on State  
Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Nadeau of Lewiston.

11 Cosponsored by Senator Pearson of Penobscot, Senator Kany of  
Kennebec and Representative Descoteaux of Biddeford.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
16

17 AN ACT to Establish a Vehicle Rental Agency  
18 in the Department of Conservation.  
19

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

22 12 MRSA c. 428-A is enacted to read:

23 CHAPTER 428-A

24 VEHICLE RENTAL AGENCY

25 §5031. Vehicle Rental Agency

26 A Vehicle Rental Agency is established in the De-  
27 partment of Conservation for the purpose of acquiring  
28 and maintaining vehicles for use by department em-  
29 ployees on official state business.

30 1. Financial and organizational structure. The  
31 Vehicle Rental Agency shall rent or lease vehicles to  
32 programs on a flat rate or mileage basis. Revenues

1 derived from these fees shall be used to replace and  
2 maintain vehicles; adequately staff the Vehicle Rent-  
3 al Agency; rent or lease-purchase required space; and  
4 otherwise provide for the general operation of the  
5 agency.

6 An Internal Services Fund shall be established for  
7 the Vehicle Rental Agency.

8       2. Start-up. The Vehicle Rental Agency shall be  
9 initially capitalized with a working capital advance  
10 from the General Fund.

11       3. Fee structure. Fees for the rental and lease  
12 of vehicles shall be calculated to provide reasonable  
13 vehicle replacement and operating costs, as well as  
14 sufficient working capital for the Vehicle Rental  
15 Agency. Any revenues over expenditures and needed  
16 working capital shall be used to reduce fees.

17       4. Initial fleet. The Commissioner of Conserva-  
18 tion may transfer vehicles from existing department  
19 programs to the Vehicle Rental Agency.

20       5. Credits. The Vehicle Rental Agency shall de-  
21 velop a method of assigning appropriate credits to be  
22 used to reduce the charges for those programs from  
23 which vehicles are transferred to the Vehicle Rental  
24 Agency in accordance with subsection 4. These cred-  
25 its shall be calculated to both reasonably compensate  
26 the programs and at the same time assure adequate  
27 revenues to support the Vehicle Rental Agency.

28       6. Other departments. Other departments and  
29 agencies may lease or rent vehicles from the Vehicle  
30 Rental Agency, when vehicles are not required by the  
31 Department of Conservation.

32 The department or agency heads may enter into agree-  
33 ments with the Vehicle Rental Agency to provide regu-  
34 lar and ongoing vehicle rental and lease services,  
35 and in doing so may transfer vehicles to the Vehicle  
36 Rental Agency. Credit shall be assigned to the de-  
37 partment or agency in accordance with subsection 5.

38 The Vehicle Rental Agency may enter into a  
39 lease-purchase agreement for the purpose of acquiring

1 suitable structures and grounds for the operation of  
2 the agency.

3 7. Working capital advance. The State Control-  
4 ler may advance to the Department of Conservation  
5 from the General Fund \$100,000 effective July 1,  
6 1985, for a Vehicle Rental Agency. These funds shall  
7 be used to provide cash necessary to operate this  
8 program. The advance shall be repaid beginning with  
9 fiscal year 1988 at the rate of 10% per year.

10

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

11 This bill provides for the establishment of a mo-  
12 tor vehicle pool called the Vehicle Rental Agency  
13 within the Department of Conservation. This pool  
14 will provide a practical way to improve vehicle man-  
15 agement for the Department of Conservation and other  
16 agencies located at the Augusta Mental Health Insti-  
17 tute Complex. The pool should allow for improved ve-  
18 hicle management by:

19 1. Reducing the size of combined fleet of vehi-  
20 cles of participating agencies;

21 2. Extending the useful life and usability of  
22 the reduced fleet;

23 3. Decreasing vandalism;

24 4. Generating more complete, accurate and timely  
25 record keeping on vehicle use; and

26 5. Freeing line agencies from the responsibility  
27 of buying, maintaining and managing vehicles.

28 The Vehicle Rental Agency would be authorized to  
29 receive a loan of not more than \$100,000 from the  
30 General Fund, if such funds become available, for the  
31 first 2 years of operation and would then repay that  
32 loan.

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