

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 478

H.P. 364 House of Representatives, February 20, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Representatives GURNEY of Portland and
BOUTILIER of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 AN ACT to Provide Special License Plates and
2 Decals for People with Hearing
3 Impairments.
4

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

7 29 MRSA §252-F is enacted to read:

8 §252-F. Hearing impaired persons; special free li-
9 cence plates

10 The Secretary of State on application and upon
11 evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Ti-
12 tle 36, section 1482, shall issue a registration cer-
13 tificate and a set of special designating plates to
14 be used in lieu of regular registration plates to any
15 person who is hearing impaired when that application

1 is accompanied by a form, available from the Division
2 of Deafness, Bureau of Rehabilitation, certified by a
3 physician stating that the applicant is hearing im-
4 paired and cannot hear or understand normal speech.

5 These special designating plates shall bear the
6 letters "H I," positioned vertically, with the "H"
7 first, preceded on the left by a 4-digit number.

8 Any person who qualifies for such a license shall
9 also be eligible to receive a special transferable
10 shield which can be displayed in the front windshield
11 on the driver's side when that person is operating
12 the vehicle.

13 STATEMENT OF FACT

14 The special license plates and tags are designed
15 to help law enforcement officials recognize deaf and
16 hearing impaired drivers. The tags and decals will
17 alert the officials that the driver will require spe-
18 cial communication techniques in order to eliminate
19 misunderstandings. The hearing impaired tag-decal
20 concept was conceived as a safety measure.

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