

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Draft of H.P. 364, L.D. 478)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1498

H.P. 1106 House of Representatives, May 11, 1987
Reported by Representative MOHOLLAND from the Committee
on Transportation and printed under Joint Rule 2.
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Original bill sponsored 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 designat-
9 ing placards

10 The Secretary of State, on application, shall is-
11 sue a hearing-impaired placard to any person who is
12 hearing impaired when that application is accompanied
13 by a form, available from the Division of Deafness,
14 Bureau of Rehabilitation, certified by a physician or

1 an audiologist stating that the applicant is hearing
2 impaired and cannot hear or understand normal speech.
3 The placard shall be displayed in a conspicuous loca-
4 tion in the vehicle as near to the operator as possi-
5 ble without obstructing the view of the operator.
6 The fee for the placard shall be \$1.

7 FISCAL NOTE

8 It is anticipated that enactment of this new
9 draft would result in a minimal increase in Highway
10 Fund revenue from the proposed \$1 fee for the
11 placard. This revenue from the fee will be offset by
12 the expected cost of manufacturing the proposed
13 placards.

14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 These special placards are designed to help law
16 enforcement officials recognize deaf and
17 hearing-impaired drivers. The placards alert the of-
18 ficials that the driver will require special communi-
19 cation techniques in order to eliminate
20 misunderstandings. The hearing-impaired placard con-
21 cept was conceived as a safety measure.

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