

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1934

H.P. 1423

House of Representatives, January 4, 1988

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 30, 1987.
Referred to the Committee on Transportation and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STEVENS of Sabattus.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to the Expiration of a Valid
Certificate of Inspection on a New or Used
Motor Vehicle.

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

29 MRSA §2507-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1983, c. 370, §9, is further amended to read:

1. Motor vehicles required to meet standard.
Except as provided in section 2507 regarding vehicles requiring body repair, no dealer or holder of a transporter registration certificate in new or used motor vehicles may permit any vehicle under his

1 ownership or control to be sold or transferred to
2 another person or legal entity for operation upon the
3 highways unless the vehicle meets the inspection
4 standards required by section 2503 and the rules and
5 regulations promulgated thereunder and has displayed
6 thereon a valid certificate of inspection issued
7 during the last 30 90 days prior to the date of
8 sale or transfer.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 At the present time, motor vehicle dealers are
11 required to remove any prior motor vehicle inspection
12 certificate from a vehicle that comes under their
13 ownership and control and to reinspect that vehicle
14 and display a valid Maine certificate of inspection on
15 that vehicle. The present law further indicates that
16 the new inspection certificate which is placed on the
17 vehicle by the dealer after it comes into the dealer's
18 control and ownership is only valid for 30 days so
19 that, if the vehicle were sold after 30 days from the
20 date the inspection certificate was placed on the
21 vehicle, the vehicle would have to be reinspected once
22 again before it may be sold.

23 In the case of many motor vehicle dealers in the
24 State who do not maintain inspection stations on their
25 premises, these vehicles must be taken to another
26 location where there is a duly licensed Maine
27 inspection station to perform the necessary
28 inspections and have the certificate of inspections
29 placed on the vehicles in question. Under the Maine
30 Revised Statutes, Title 29, section 2507, the only
31 time that an uninspected motor vehicle under the
32 control and ownership of a dealer may be moved without
33 an inspection certificate on the highways is for the
34 purpose of transporting the vehicle to an
35 establishment for body repair only. If a dealer has a
36 vehicle reinspected and has a new 12-month inspection
37 certificate placed on it after the vehicle comes into
38 the dealer's control and ownership, the dealer may

1 operate that vehicle for the full 12 months with a new
2 inspection certificate. If the dealer sells that
3 vehicle on a date that is more than 30 days from the
4 date of the new 12-month inspection certificate, the
5 dealer, under present law, must take that vehicle to
6 an inspection station and have it reinspected a 2nd
7 time, despite the fact that the vehicle in question
8 could legally be operated by the dealer for the
9 remainder of the 12-month period from the date of the
10 new inspection sticker that was placed on the vehicle
11 when the dealer had it reinspected at the time the
12 vehicle came into the dealer's control and ownership.

13 The above-described situation represents an
14 unreasonable burden on dealers in the State and it is
15 for this reason that this bill proposes to extend the
16 time period during which an initial inspection
17 certificate is valid for the purpose of selling a
18 vehicle so that dealers will not have to have vehicles
19 on their lots reinspected as often. The proposed
20 extension of the inspection certificate validity time
21 period from 30 to 90 days is reasonable under the
22 circumstances and will still ensure that vehicles
23 which are for sale by these dealers comply with the
24 inspection standards contained in Title 29, section
25 2503.

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