

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1957

H.P. 1446 House of Representatives, January 7, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative GOULD of Greenville.
Cosponsored by Representatives STROUT of Corinth,
Senators EMERSON of Penobscot and DOW of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Adequately Compensate Municipal**
2 **Agents for Activities Undertaken on Behalf of**
3 **the State in the Registration of Motor**
4 **Vehicles.**
5

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

8 29 MRSA §52-A, first ¶, as amended by PL 1987,
9 c. 262, is further amended to read:

10 With the approval of the municipal officers of a

1 municipality, the Secretary of State may appoint
2 municipal tax collectors, or such other persons as a
3 municipality may designate to collect excise taxes on
4 vehicles, as agents to receive applications for the
5 registration and the renewal of registrations of motor
6 vehicles, trailers and semitrailers. Municipal agents
7 so appointed may be authorized to issue both
8 registrations and renewals of registrations, or their
9 authority may be limited to the issuance of renewals
10 only. Those agents authorized to issue both
11 registrations and renewals may issue registrations for
12 trucks not registered for over 6,000 pounds g.v.w.,
13 automobiles, trailers, semitrailers and farm tractors,
14 and may issue renewals for automobiles, trailers,
15 semitrailers, trucks and farm tractors in which there
16 is no change from the previous registration in the
17 status of the vehicle to include the registered gross
18 weight, axles or any other change in the status
19 defined by the Secretary of State, provided these
20 vehicles are not for hire. Those agents authorized to
21 issue new registrations may also register trucks of
22 greater gross weight after having satisfactorily
23 participated in special training as prescribed by the
24 Secretary of State. Agents authorized to issue
25 renewals only may issue renewals for automobiles,
26 trailers, semitrailers, trucks and farm tractors in
27 which there is no change from the previous
28 registration in the status of the vehicle to include
29 the registered gross weight, axles or any other change
30 in status defined by the Secretary of State, provided
31 these vehicles are not for hire. Agents may also
32 issue renewals for school buses operated by school
33 administrative units or private contractors. The
34 agents may charge any applicant a fee not to exceed
35 \$1 \$2 over and above the required registration fee
36 for each renewal issued and a fee not to exceed \$2 in
37 the case of each new registration issued, the service
38 charges to be retained by the municipality.

39 STATEMENT OF FACT

40 Municipal tax collectors have served as agents for
41 renewal of motor vehicle registrations for a decade.

1 Local registration is a service that taxpayers
2 appreciate and one which municipal officials are
3 committed to providing.

4 The fees collected by the municipality for this
5 service have not increased since 1977 and are not now
6 adequate to pay the costs of the service.

7 The purpose of this bill is to increase by \$1 the
8 amount the municipal agent may charge for local
9 renewals of motor vehicle registrations only. New
10 registrations are already at \$2 and this bill does not
11 increase that amount, nor does it increase from \$1 the
12 amount that may be charged for license renewals.

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