

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 114

H.P. 85

House of Representatives, February 7, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative RAND of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representative SKOGLUND of St. George, Representative CARROLL of Southwest Harbor and Senator TWITCHELL of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Require Motor Vehicle Registration for Island Automobiles.



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

3 **Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §1, sub-§3-H is enacted to read:**

5 3-H. Island vehicle. "Island vehicle" means a motor
7 vehicle, used for the conveyance of passengers, which is operated
9 exclusively on islands having no roads supported or maintained by
11 the State.

13 **Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §102, as amended by PL 1985, c. 429, §8, is**
15 **further amended to read:**

17 No vehicle may be operated, or remain upon any way,
19 including, but not limited to, ways on islands which have no
21 roads supported by the State, unless the same vehicle is
23 registered and equipped in accordance with this Title, excepting
25 that any officer of the State Police, any sheriff or full-time
27 deputy sheriff or any full-time municipal police officer may,
29 when in his that officer's opinion the same vehicle is necessary
31 and not detrimental to the public safety, grant a permit in
33 writing for an unregistered motor vehicle to be towed either by a
35 regular service wrecker or by the use of a towbar. Further, any
37 officer of the State Police, any sheriff or full-time deputy
39 sheriff, any full-time municipal police officer and certain
41 employees of the Motor Vehicle Division so designated by the
43 Secretary of State shall issue a permit to allow the operation of
45 an unregistered motor vehicle only to the owner's residence or to
an office of the Motor Vehicle Division for the sole purpose of
renewing the registration of that vehicle by the same owner as
indicated on the expired registration certificate. The permit
shall be issued only when the previous registration on the
vehicle has expired within 30 days. The permit shall not remain
valid for more than 3 consecutive days including the date of
issuance. Application for such registration may be made by mail
or otherwise to the Secretary of State upon blanks prepared under
his the Secretary of State's authority. The application shall be
signed by the owner and shall contain such particulars as may be
required by the Secretary of State, including the name, residence
and address of the owner, current mileage, with a brief
description of the vehicle, the name of its maker, vehicle
identification number, the amount of motive power, stated in
figures of horsepower, the type of motor fuel if other than
gasoline as defined in Title 36, section 2902, under the phrase
"internal combustion engine fuel" and the actual gross weight of
the vehicle if intended for commercial use.

47 **Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §119 is enacted to read:**

49 §119. Island vehicles

51 The registration of an island vehicle shall be on a form
53 prescribed by the Secretary of State. The registration shall be
accompanied by an affidavit, provided by the Secretary of State,

1 which shall include a statement of the intended use of the motor
3 vehicle and a statement that the person registering the vehicle
5 understands that person's responsibility in the event the vehicle
7 is abandoned.

9 The Secretary of State is authorized to design and issue
11 registration plates for island vehicles. These plates shall bear
13 the inscriptions "Island Vehicle" and "Maine."

15 **Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §242, sub-§1, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by
17 PL 1987, c. 549, §1, is repealed.

19 **Sec. 5. 29 MRSA §242, sub-§1, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by
21 PL 1987, c. 789, §6, is amended to read:

23 A. Motor vehicles used for the conveyance of passengers
25 shall pay a fee of \$22. Motor vehicles which are used
27 interchangeably for the conveyance of passengers or property
29 shall pay a fee of \$22. These vehicles shall be designated
31 as "combinations" and may be issued a special plate with the
33 word "Combination" in lieu of "Vacationland." Commercial
35 plates shall not be issued to or displayed on automobiles.

37 ~~Motor vehicles used for the conveyance of passengers which~~
39 ~~are operated exclusively on islands having no roads~~
41 ~~maintained or supported by the State~~ Island vehicles shall
43 be registered for a fee of \$2 \$12, and the municipality
45 collecting excise tax for such vehicles may collect an
47 additional \$4 fee to help defray the cost of removing
49 abandoned vehicles.

51 For the purpose of registration only, a pickup truck may be
registered as provided for automobiles, provided that at no
time may the gross weight of a pickup truck so registered
exceed 6,000 pounds when used as a motor truck or truck
tractor. The owner of such a pickup truck desiring a gross
weight of the truck in excess of 6,000 pounds shall register
the truck as provided in section 246.

The registration fee for an electrically-powered passenger
vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 6,000 pounds or less
shall be \$10 greater than the registration fee for a similar
vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

53 **Sec. 6. 29 MRSA §2506, sub-§6,** as enacted by PL 1981, c. 161,
55 is amended to read:

57 **6. Island vehicles.** ~~Motor vehicles, used for the conveyance~~
59 ~~of passengers, which are operated exclusively on islands having~~
61 ~~no roads maintained or supported by the State and which are~~
registered for a fee of \$2 under section 242, subsection 1,
paragraph A. Island vehicles;

1
3
5
7
9
11
13
15
17
19
21
23
25

Sec. 7. 29 MRSA §2610, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Island vehicles. In addition to the other provisions of this section, the person in whose name an island vehicle is registered shall be liable for all costs of removal in the event the vehicle is abandoned and not removed by the owner within the required time.

Sec. 8. Effective date. Sections 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 shall take effect January 1, 1990.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires registration and plates for island vehicles. The fee would be \$12, which is less than the \$22 required for other passenger vehicles, but more than the present \$2. The present \$4 abandonment surcharge is retained, and the registrant is made clearly responsible if the vehicle is abandoned and must be removed. Except for a technical correction, the effective date is made January 1, 1990, to allow time for implementation.