

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 192

H.P. 140

House of Representatives, February 15, 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 SMITH of Island Falls.

Cosponsored by Representative HUSSEY of Milo, Representative TARDY of Palmyra and Representative GRAHAM of Houlton.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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An Act Concerning Motor Vehicle Registration Plate Design.

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

3 **29 MRSA §131**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 725, Pt. H, §1, is  
5 amended to read:

7 **§131. Registration plate issues**

9 The Secretary of State shall provide a new general issue of  
11 registration plates every 6 years for all vehicles required to be  
13 registered in this State for operation on Maine highways. The  
first new general issue of registration plates shall commence on  
~~July 1, 1987~~ July 1, 1989, and successive new general issues of  
registration plates shall be issued every 6 years thereafter.

15 Each new general issue of registration plates as required by  
17 this section shall be easily distinguishable from the preceding  
general issue.

19 ~~The following design elements are guidelines to be followed  
21 by the Secretary of State in the production of new plates to be  
issued from July 1987 to December 1992. A new plate shall have a  
23 white background, identification numbers and letters and the  
border shall be distinctly navy blue in color with any graphic  
25 material appearing in a color distinctly lobster red, featuring  
an illustration of a lobster. The name of the State "Maine" shall  
27 appear centered at the top of the plate and the designation  
"Vacationland" shall appear centered at the bottom. Each county  
may develop and select its own design logo for new plates for  
29 citizens residing in that county. The delegation to the  
Legislature from each county shall determine the logo for that  
31 county and shall submit the design elements as guidelines to be  
followed by the Secretary of State in the production of new  
33 plates issued from July 1989 to December 1994. Notwithstanding  
any design logo selected by each county, each Maine resident may  
35 elect to receive plain plates having no distinguishing features  
other than the name of the State "Maine" appearing centered at  
37 the top of the plate and the designation "Vacationland" appearing  
centered at the bottom. This guidance is meant to be applied in  
39 accordance with the authority held by the Secretary of State in  
section 110.~~

41 The Secretary of State shall adopt rules in accordance with  
43 Title 5, chapter 375, to implement this article. In these rules,  
45 the Secretary of State may include provisions to protect the  
integrity of the Maine motor vehicle registration plate, to  
47 provide for the issue of replacement plates and any other  
provisions to facilitate the implementation of this article.

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

3           This bill provides that each county may select a design logo  
4 for registration plates for residents of that county. The  
5 determination of the logo is to be made by the delegation to the  
6 Legislature from each county. Alternatively, each Maine resident  
7 may choose to receive plain plates.