

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 178

(Filing No. S-24)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 93, L.D. 178, Bill, "An Act to Authorize Flag Plates on Motor Vehicles"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is an ongoing conflict in the Middle East; and

Whereas, the citizens of Maine are seeking ways to show support for the men and women of the armed services in the Persian Gulf region; and

Whereas, displaying a United States flag is a means of showing support for armed services personnel and their families; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §252-H is enacted to read:

§252-H. United States flag plates

The Secretary of State is authorized to design and issue a special plate depicting the United States flag. A person may

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2 display the United States flag plate on a vehicle registered up
3 to 9,000 pounds or on a motor home by covering, but not removing,
4 the normal front registration plate. The Secretary of State
5 shall charge a fee of \$5 for each United States flag plate
6 issued. Municipal agents appointed pursuant to section 52-A may
7 charge \$1 in addition to the fee required by this section for
8 each United States flag plate issued, the service charge to be
9 retained by the municipality. The authorization to display the
10 United States flag plate on a registered vehicle expires March
11 30, 1992.

12 A person who displays the United States flag plate in place
13 of the normal registration plate after March 30, 1992 violates
14 section 2183.

15 **Sec. 2. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the
16 Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

17 1990-91

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19 **SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF**

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21 **Administration - Motor Vehicles**

22
23 All Other \$67,717

24
25 Provides funds for postage, scotchlite,
26 aluminum and other general operating
27 expenses required to manufacture and
28 distribute 25,000 flag plates.
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31 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
32 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.
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35 **FISCAL NOTE**

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37 1990-91

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39 **Appropriations/Allocations**

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41 Highway Fund \$67,717

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43 **Revenues**

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45 Highway Fund \$67,717

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47 Although this legislation requires a highway fund allocation
48 of \$67,717 for fiscal year 1990-91 for the manufacture and
49 distribution of 25,000 flag plates, these costs will be offset by
50 a \$5 fee charged for each plate. To break even, the Division of

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 93, L.D. 178

2 Motor Vehicles will need to sell approximately 13,544 plates.
4 The sale of plates will be affected by the status of the war and
6 the timeliness of the issuance.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

8 This amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause to the
10 bill. It allows the Secretary of State to sell flag plates
12 independent of the registration process and prescribes how they
14 must be attached to a registered vehicle. It authorizes
municipal agents to issue flag plates and collect a \$1 service
charge. It also adds an allocation and fiscal note.

Reported by Senator Gould for the Committee on Transportation.
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