

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)

2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
40
42
44

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1168, L.D. 1709, Bill, "An Act to Promote Motor Vehicle Fuel Efficiency"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 to 5 and inserting in their place the following:

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §1192, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Consumer notification of fee or rebate. A colored sticker no smaller than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches next to the price sticker. This sticker must read as follows:

Because this vehicle's gas mileage is _____, a (Gas Guzzler Fee will be charged to the buyer at the time of sale.) (Gas Sipper Rebate will be mailed to the buyer by the State.) (Under Maine law, vehicles with a gas mileage rating below the federal fuel economy standard are charged a Gas Guzzler Fee of \$6 for each .1 mile per gallon below the federal standard.) (Under Maine law, a Gas Sipper Rebate of \$200 is awarded to all vehicles with a fuel economy rating above 27 miles per gallon and \$350 to all vehicles with a fuel economy rating above 34 miles per gallon.)

For purposes of this subsection, "gas guzzler fee" and "gas sipper rebate" have the same meaning as in section 1192-A.

Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §1192-A is enacted to read:

§1192-A. Fees and rebates

1. Gas guzzler fee. A fee must be paid by the buyer at the time of purchase and sale of all new noncommercial automobiles and light trucks sold in the State with a gas mileage rating

2 below 23.4 for automobiles and 17.4 for light trucks.
3 Automobiles and light trucks that are classified for use by
4 handicapped persons are exempt. This fee must be equal to \$6 for
5 each .1 mile per gallon that the vehicle's gas mileage is below
6 the rating established in this subsection. All fees collected
7 must be sent to the State Tax Assessor at the same time and in
8 the same manner as sales tax.

9
10 2. Gas sipper rebate. As soon as sufficient revenues have
11 been collected by the State under subsection 1, the following
12 rebates must be provided by the State to purchasers of new,
13 noncommercial automobiles and light trucks with gas mileage
14 ratings as follows:

15 A. Two hundred dollars if the fuel economy rating is equal
16 to or greater than 27 miles per gallon, but less than 34
17 miles per gallon; or

18 B. Three hundred fifty dollars if the fuel economy rating
19 is equal to or greater than 34 miles per gallon.

20
21 3. Recalculation of fees and rebates. The State Tax
22 Assessor, in consultation with the Secretary of State or the
23 Secretary of State's designee, the energy division of the State
24 Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection,
25 shall recalculate annually the fees and rebates set forth in
26 subsections 1 and 2. Adjustments must be made to the fees and
27 rebates as the fuel economy of cars and light trucks changes and
28 to ensure that this program is revenue neutral.

29
30 4. Costs of administration. All costs of administering the
31 collection of fees and distribution of rebates established in
32 this section must be covered by fees collected under subsection 1.

33 **Sec. 4. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 1993.'

34
35 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
36 statement of fact the following:

37
38
39 **FISCAL NOTE**

40
41 The specific impact of fees and rebates can not be
42 determined at this time. However, the amendment mandates revenue
43 neutrality so there will be no net fiscal impact to the State.'

2

STATEMENT OF FACT

4 This amendment places gas guzzler fees on new noncommercial
6 automobiles and light trucks that get below average fuel
8 efficiency and provides for gas sipper rebates to purchasers of
10 vehicles with above average fuel efficiency rating. This
12 amendment exempts automobiles and light trucks classified for use
14 by handicapped persons. Gas guzzler fees are paid upon vehicle
16 purchase and sale. Rebates will be distributed by the State when
18 sufficient revenues have been derived from these fees. Fees and
20 rebates must be adjusted annually so that the program remains
 revenue neutral.

 The purpose of this amendment is to encourage purchasers of
16 new automobiles and light trucks to buy fuel-efficient vehicles,
18 which will reduce the State's oil dependency, thereby helping to
20 protect the economy from future oil crises, reducing air
 pollution, helping to control global warming and cutting gas
 costs for drivers.

Reported by the Minority from the Committee on Taxation.
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

1/31/92

(Filing No. H-885)