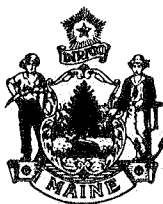


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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)



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

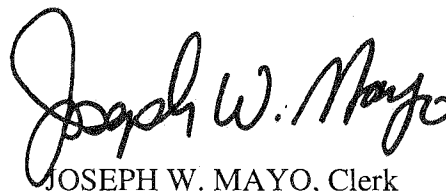
No. 180

H.P. 138

House of Representatives, January 14, 1997

An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws Regarding Proof of Financial Responsibility and to Increase the Required Minimum Amounts of Liability Insurance Coverage.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative LEMAIRE of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator CLEVELAND of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, CHARTRAND of Rockland, FARNSWORTH of
Portland, HATCH of Skowhegan, McALEVEY of Waterboro, POVICH of Ellsworth.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1601, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
4 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

6 **6. Suspension.** Thirty days after the receipt of an
7 abstract of an adjudication of a violation of this section, the
8 Secretary of State shall suspend:

10 A. The license of that person;

12 B. The registration of a vehicle owned by that person; or

14 C. The right to apply for a driver's license or vehicle
15 registration.

16 The suspension continues until that person provides evidence--of
18 insurance proof of financial responsibility to the Secretary of
19 State pursuant to section 1605.

20 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1601, sub-§7**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
22 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

24 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §1601, sub-§7-A** is enacted to read:

26 **7-A. Proof of financial responsibility following**
27 **adjudication.** A person who is adjudicated of a violation of this
28 section is subject to the proof of financial responsibility
29 requirements provided in section 1605.

30 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §1602, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
32 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

34 **6. Insurance report.** Within 15 days of receipt of notice
35 from the Secretary of State that a policy was carried at the time
36 of the accident or that the liability for damages was covered by
37 another form of insurance or bond, an insurance carrier shall
38 notify the Secretary of State if that policy was not in effect at
39 the time of the accident. A civil penalty of \$50 may be imposed
40 for each day after 15 days that the insurance carrier fails to
41 notify the Secretary of State as required in this subsection.

42 **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §1605, sub-§1, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
44 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

46 C. Be in the amount or limit of at least:

48 (1) \$10,000 \$25,000 for damage to property;

2 (2) ~~\$20,000~~ \$50,000 for injury to or death of any one
person; and

4 (3) ~~\$40,000~~ \$100,000 for one accident resulting in
6 injury to or death of more than one person.

8 **Sec. 6. 29-A MRSA §1607, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

10 **I. Satisfaction.** To meet the obligation of financial
12 responsibility only, a judgment is satisfied:

14 A. When ~~\$20,000~~ \$50,000 has been credited on a judgment for
16 bodily injury to or death of one person as the result of one
accident rendered in excess of that amount;

18 B. Subject to paragraph A, when ~~\$40,000~~ \$100,000 has been
20 credited on a judgment for bodily injury to or death of 2 or
more people as the result of one accident rendered in excess
of that amount; or

22 C. When ~~\$10,000~~ \$25,000 has been credited on a judgment for
24 injury to or destruction of property of others as a result
of one accident rendered in excess of that amount.

26
28 **SUMMARY**

This bill requires a person adjudicated of the offense of
30 failing to produce evidence of insurance to file proof of
financial responsibility with the Secretary of State. The bill
32 also increases the minimum amounts of automobile liability
insurance coverage.