

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPORT A  
TRANSPORTATION

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 207, L.D. 260, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Production and Issuance of Registration Plates"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 4-A in paragraph E in the first line (page 1, line 33 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "devise" the following: ', with the advice of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

Sec. 2. PL 1995, c. 645, Pt. C, §15 is amended to read:

**Sec. C-15. Task force on production and issuance of license plates.**

The Secretary of State shall convene a task force to study the production and issuance of license plates. The task force shall convene no later than May 15, 1996 and conclude its work no later than ~~November 1, 1996~~ December 1, 1998.

**1. Membership.** The task force consists of 11 members selected as follows.

The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each appoint 2 members to serve as task force members. ~~Members may continue to serve after their legislative term of office has expired.~~ At the request of one of their appointees, the appointing authority may appoint another member of the committee to replace the requesting member on the task force.

The Secretary of State shall appoint 2 members representing law enforcement: one representing county sheriffs' departments and one representing municipal police departments.

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2 The Chief of the State Police shall designate a state police  
officer to serve as a member.

4  
6 The business manager for the bureau; the director of the public  
services division within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles; the  
8 director of the commercial vehicles division within the bureau;  
and an assistant deputy secretary of state serve as ex officio  
members of the task force.

10  
12 The Chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and  
the Secretary of State shall send a list of the people appointed  
14 to serve on the task force to the Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council no later than May 1, 1996.

16 **2. Convening of first meeting; election of chair.** The  
Secretary of State or a designee of the Secretary of State shall  
18 convene the first meeting of the task force no later than May 15,  
1996. The task force shall select a chair from among its members.

20  
22 **3. Staff and resource consultants to the task force.** The  
Secretary of State shall provide staff assistance to the task  
24 force. The supervisor of the Maine State Prison plate shop shall  
serve as a consultant to the task force. The task force may  
26 request assistance with the preparation of any recommended  
legislation from the Legislative Council.

28 **4. Purpose of task force.** The task force shall study  
issues relating to the design and production of license plates  
30 and make recommendations to the Legislature for the new general  
plate issue beginning July 1, 1999. In conducting the study the  
32 task force shall examine the following.

34 A. The task force shall evaluate the existing equipment at  
the Warren prison facility, its adequacy for meeting plate  
36 production demand and the costs of overhauling that  
equipment prior to a new general issue. The task force  
38 shall examine state-of-the-art technology for in-house  
graphics creation and production of specialty plates. The  
40 task force shall consider costs of new equipment and the  
impact of various types of equipment on production  
42 capabilities and on jobs at the prison facility.

44 B. The task force shall consider methods of assigning  
unique identifiers to license plates. The task force shall  
46 consider use of a stacked letter system to allow duplication  
of numbers among different types of plates. The task force  
48 shall make recommendations as to the use of a single  
numbering system or a system that allows duplication.

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# COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 C. The Until November 1, 1996, the task force shall  
4 consider designs for a new general issue plate to replace  
6 the lobster plate design. The task force shall use the  
8 plate design standards of the American Association of Motor  
Vehicle Administrators in developing or evaluating designs.  
The task force shall present design alternatives to the  
Joint Standing Committee on Transportation before making a  
recommendation, on or by November 1, 1996, on plate design.

10 D. The task force may consider any other issues related to  
12 the production of license plates.

14 **5. Reimbursement for travel expenses.** Members of the task  
16 force who are Legislators or were Legislators at the time of  
18 appointment are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses for  
20 meetings of the task force. Members of the Joint Standing  
22 Committee on Transportation who participated in meetings  
initiated by the Secretary of State to study license plate  
production issues during the period of September 1, 1995 to  
December 31, 1995 are entitled to reimbursement for travel  
expenses upon submitting the appropriate expense forms to the  
Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

24 **6. Initial recommendation.** The task force shall submit a  
26 an initial report including findings, recommendations and  
28 proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on  
Transportation and to the Executive Director of the Legislative  
Council no later than November 1, 1996. The task force shall  
submit legislation to implement its recommendations to the  
30 Revisor of Statutes no later than January 1, 1997. The report  
32 must include a proposed plate design for the new general issue,  
34 recommendations for the registration classes required to display  
the new general issue plates and for the specialty plates to  
remain in use concurrent with the new general issue.

36 **7. Final recommendations.** The task force shall submit its  
38 final recommendations regarding the use of a single numbering  
40 system or a system that allows duplication to the Joint Standing  
Committee on Transportation and to the Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council during the Second Regular Session of the  
118th Legislature.

42 **Sec. 3. Transition; retroactivity.** Those members of the task  
44 force to study the production and issuance of license plates who  
46 were appointed pursuant to Public Law 1995, chapter 645, Part C,  
48 section 15 continue to serve as members of the task force, except  
that the 2 legislative members of the task force whose  
legislative terms have expired must be replaced with new  
appointees who are members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
50 Transportation by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of  
the House.

2 This section and those sections of this Act that amend  
4 Public Law 1995, chapter 645, Part C, section 15 apply  
retroactively to November 1, 1996.'

6 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
summary the following:

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10 **FISCAL NOTE**

12 The unexpended balance of a Highway Fund allocation pursuant  
14 to Public Law 1995, chapter 645, Part D to fund the costs  
associated with the Task Force on Production and Issuance of  
16 License Plates, which does not lapse but carries forward, is  
sufficient to meet the additional costs associated with  
continuing the task force.'

18  
20 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment specifies that the Secretary of State must  
24 have the advice of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation  
when devising a numbering system for the new general issue of  
registration plates.

26 The amendment also authorizes the continuation through the  
28 118th Legislature of the Task Force on Production and Issuance of  
License Plates, which was created by Public Law 1995, chapter  
30 645, Part C, section 15. Members of the task force shall  
continue to serve, except that the 2 legislative members whose  
32 legislative terms have expired must be replaced with new  
appointments by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of  
34 the House. The amendment charges the task force with continuing  
its study of the equipment and technology used for the production  
36 of license plates and the methods of assigning identifiers to  
license plates.

38 The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.  
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