

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 404

S.P. 125

In Senate, January 23, 1997

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Snowmobile Registration.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KIEFFER of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative UNDERWOOD of Oxford and
Senators: CAREY of Kennebec, HALL of Piscataquis, PARADIS of Aroostook, RUHLIN of
Penobscot, Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, CHICK of Lebanon.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7821, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

4 **1-A. Antique snowmobile.** "Antique snowmobile" means a
6 snowmobile more than 25 years old that is primarily used for
8 exhibition, parades and other events of interest to the public
and not primarily used for recreational or commercial purposes.

10 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7824, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 467,
12 §3, is further amended to read:

14 **2. Fee.** ~~The annual snowmobile registration fee is as~~
16 follows A one-time registration fee for an antique snowmobile is
18 \$30. The registration for an antique snowmobile is valid for the
life of the snowmobile. The annual registration fee for all
other snowmobiles is:

20 A. For residents, \$20. The registration for a snowmobile
22 owned by a resident is valid for one year, commencing on
24 July 1st of each year; and

26 B. For nonresidents:

28 (1) Thirty-five dollars for a 3-consecutive day
30 registration. A person may purchase more than one
32 3-day registration in any season;

34 (2) Fifty dollars for a 10-consecutive day
36 registration. A person may purchase more than one
38 10-day registration in any season; and

40 (3) Sixty dollars for a seasonal registration.

42 The registration for a snowmobile owned by a nonresident
44 must specify the dates for which the registration is valid.

46 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7824, sub-§8, ¶A-1** is enacted to read:

48 **A-1.** A person may transfer the ownership of an antique
50 snowmobile to another person upon payment of a transfer fee
of \$10. This transfer fee is paid in lieu of the regular
registration fee for an antique snowmobile.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §7824, sub-§9, as amended by PL 1995, c. 467,
§8, is further amended to read:

9. Reciprocity. Except as specifically provided in this
subsection, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
snowmobile may be possessed or operated by any person in this
State without being registered in this State as long as:

2 A. The snowmobile is properly registered in the name of a
4 nonresident owner of the snowmobile;

6 B. The nonresident owner of the snowmobile is a resident of
8 a state, province, country or district with which this State
has reciprocity.

10 For purposes of this subsection, "state, province, country or
12 district with which this State has reciprocity" means a state,
14 province, country or district that shares a common border with
16 this State and that offers similar privileges to residents of
18 this State. A state, province, country or district does not
20 offer similar privileges if Maine residents holding a valid Maine
snowmobile registration are charged a fee for access to the trail
system in that state, province, country or district, or if, as
determined by the commissioner, privileges and opportunities
offered to snowmobile users in that state, province, country or
district are not otherwise comparable to those offered in this
State.

22 A snowmobile owned by a nonresident may not be issued a resident
24 registration. Nothing in this subsection authorizes the
operation of any snowmobile in any manner contrary to this
subchapter.

26 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §7824, sub-§10, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1979, c.
28 420, §1, is amended to read:

30 B. The registration number assigned to a snowmobile shall
32 must be displayed in such form and manner as the
commissioner may determine, except that an antique
34 snowmobile is not required to display registration numbers.

36 SUMMARY

38 This bill defines an antique snowmobile as a snowmobile more
40 than 25 years old that is primarily used in exhibition, parades
and other events of interest to the public and not used primarily
for recreational or commercial purposes.

42 The bill creates a one-time registration fee of \$30 for
44 antique snowmobiles and allows that registration to be
transferred to a new owner for a transfer fee of \$10.

46 The bill exempts owners of antique snowmobiles from the
48 requirement that they display their registration numbers on their
snowmobile and restricts the reciprocity provisions of law
50 pertaining to snowmobiles to states, provinces and countries
sharing a common border with Maine.