

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1504

H.P. 1067

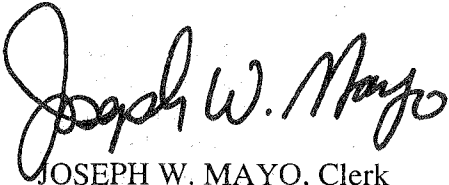
House of Representatives, March 13, 1997

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**An Act to Amend the Notification Requirements for Insurance  
Companies and Towing Companies.**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative VOLENIK of Brooklin.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CHARTRAND of Rockland, FARNSWORTH of Portland, GAGNE of Buckfield, PIEH of Bremen, POVICH of Ellsworth, Senators: RAND of Cumberland, RUHLIN of Penobscot.

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

2                   Sec. 1. 29-A MRS §§1861, 1862 and 2255-A are enacted to read:

4                   **§1861. Notify owner of charges**

6                   A towing company shall notify an owner or the driver of a  
8                   motor vehicle of all towing and storage charges before towing the  
10                   motor vehicle. If the owner or the driver is not present at the  
12                   time of towing, the towing company shall notify the owner or  
14                   driver in writing or by telephone of the charges immediately  
16                   after towing the motor vehicle.

18                   **§1862. Withhold personal items; prohibited**

20                   A towing company may not withhold personal items from the  
22                   owner or the driver of the motor vehicle that is in the  
24                   possession of the towing company.

26                   **§2255-A. Accidents; notification**

28                   If an insured's motor vehicle is involved in an accident,  
30                   the insurer shall keep the insured and the driver of the motor  
32                   vehicle apprised of all actions and communications related to the  
34                   accident.

36                   **SUMMARY**

                  This bill requires towing companies to inform owners of a  
motor vehicle of all the towing and storage charges that are  
associated with towing the vehicle before the vehicle is towed.  
If the owner is not present, the towing company shall notify the  
owner by mail or telephone. The bill also requires the insurer  
of an insured motor vehicle that is involved in an accident to  
keep the owner and the driver of the motor vehicle apprised of  
any actions or communications related to the accident.