

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1667

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TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 587, L.D. 1667, Bill, "An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Laws"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, effective implementation of new license plate designs requires that the Secretary of State have the immediate authority to issue temporary facsimile plates for persons who have reserved their plate numbers; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, '

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 4 (page 1, lines 20 to 33 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §461, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1997, c. 776, §11, is further amended to read:

1. Plate issue year. In a year in which new registration plates are issued, the Secretary of State shall reserve until July 1st the same registration number for the succeeding

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2 registration year for a person who notifies in writing the
 Secretary of State prior to May 1st of that person's desire to
 4 retain that registration number. The fee for retention of the
 same registration number is \$15.

6 The Secretary of State may issue a facsimile plate that is valid
for a 90-day period during production of a reserved plate. A
 8 facsimile plate must be attached to the rear plate bracket.

10 If a person does not have a vehicle to register on May 1st, a
 registration number may be held for a maximum of 2 registration
 12 years by depositing with the Secretary of State \$15 for each
 year; except that the registered owner of an antique vehicle may
 14 reserve the antique registration assigned to that person for 4
 years by depositing the sum of \$15 for each registration year.
 16 These fees are not refundable and may not be applied against the
 registration fee.

18 All numbers other than those reserved must be released and issued
 20 in rotation after July 1st.

22 A person wishing to select a number out of rotation may do so by
 paying the registration fee and a reserved number fee of \$15.

24 A holder of vanity registration plates must pay the sum of \$15 to
 26 reserve those letters or combination of letters and numbers,
 which is credited toward the renewal fee.'

28 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 7 the
 30 following:

32 'Sec. 8. 29-A MRSA §652, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

34 4-A. Semitrailers. Semitrailers that qualify to be
registered under section 512 with an unladen weight in excess of
 36 3,000 pounds and that are used for interstate or intrastate
transportation. Such vehicles may be titled in this State even
 38 if the trailer is registered in another jurisdiction.'

40 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 15 the
 following:

42 'Sec. 16. 29-A MRSA §1101, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
 44 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

46 Sec. 17. 29-A MRSA §1101, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

48 4-A. Term. Recycler licenses issued on or after the
effective date of this subsection must be issued on a staggered
 50 basis and expire on the last day of the month.

2 one year from issuance. All recycler licenses renewed for
3 calendar year 2000 must be renewed on a staggered basis and the
4 license fees prorated.'

5 Further amend the bill in section 19 in subsection 6 in
6 paragraph B in the first line (page 5, line 9 in L.D.) by
7 inserting after the following: "examination" the following:
8 'for the holder of a valid motor vehicle operator's license'

9 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 20 the
10 following:

11 **'Sec. 21. 29-A MRSA §1401, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1997, c.**
12 **1437, §35, is repealed.**

13 **Sec. 22. 29-A MRSA §1401, sub-§§6, 7 and 8 are enacted to read:**

14 **6. Distribution of digital image. Digital image**
15 **information used to produce a license is confidential and may be**
16 **distributed only as required to comply with the provisions of 18**
17 **United States Code, Chapter 123, except that digital image**
18 **information may not be distributed to sales and marketing**
19 **companies or to the public. A violation of this subsection is a**
20 **violation of section 2103, subsection 4.**

21 **7. Graphic design. The graphic design used on the license**
22 **may not be reproduced, copied or distributed without the written**
23 **consent of the Secretary of State. A violation of this**
24 **subsection is a violation of section 2103, subsection 4.**

25 **8. Security components. The security components contained**
26 **on the license may not be reproduced, copied or distributed**
27 **without the written consent of the Secretary of State. A**
28 **violation of this subsection is a violation of section 2103,**
29 **subsection 4.**

30 **Sec. 23. 29-A MRSA §1601, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1993, c.**
31 **683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:**

32 **1. Requirement. An operator or owner of a vehicle**
33 **registered in this State or required to be registered in this**
34 **State shall maintain the amounts of motor vehicle financial**
35 **responsibility specified in section 1605.'**

36 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 22 the
37 following:

38 **'Sec. 23. 29-A MRSA §2412-A, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL**
39 **1995, c. 368, Pt. AAA, §12, is amended to read:**

2 E. Has failed to answer, pay a fine or ~~to~~ appear in court
4 pursuant to a notice or order specified in section 2605 or
2608.'

6 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 23 the
8 following:

10 'Sec. 24. 29-A MRSA §2507, as amended by PL 1997, c. 437,
§45, is repealed.'

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

16 'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

18 Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any
20 nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

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

26 **FISCAL NOTE**

28 **1999-00 2000-01**

30 **REVENUES**

32 Highway Fund \$382,574 (\$353,145)

34 Allowing dealer licenses to be issued by the Secretary of
36 State on a staggered basis will have the effect of increasing
Highway Fund revenues by \$382,574 in fiscal year 1999-00 and
38 reducing Highway Fund revenues by \$353,145 in fiscal year 2000-01.

40 The Bureau of Motor Vehicles within the Department of the
Secretary of State will incur some minor additional costs to
42 issue certain facsimile plates. These costs can be absorbed
within the bureau's existing budgeted resources.

44 This bill may increase the number of traffic infractions
46 filed in the court system. The additional workload and
administrative costs associated with the minimal number of new
48 cases filed can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the
Judicial Department. The collection of additional fines may also
50 increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment makes the bill an emergency and adds provisions to the bill that:

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1. Repeal the ignition interlock program for repeat OUI offenders;

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2. Clarify that a person may be convicted for operating after suspension when the person's license is suspended by a court for failing to pay a fine;

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3. Clarify that motor vehicles that are required by law to be registered in the State are subject to the same minimum insurance requirements as cars that are registered in the State;

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4. Prohibit the sale or distribution of digital image information, graphic designs and security components contained in a driver's license;

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5. Change recycler licenses from calendar-year licenses to 12-month licenses;

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6. Allow semitrailers registered in another jurisdiction to be titled in this State; and

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7. Allow the Secretary of State to issue a temporary 90-day facsimile plate to persons who have reserved their plate numbers to allow for the reserved plate to be manufactured.

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This amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.