

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AMS

L.D. 2649

DATE: 4-3-00

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TRANSPORTATION  
MAJORITY

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1904, L.D. 2649, Bill, "An Act to Allow Registration of Low-speed Vehicles"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Allow Registration of Low-speed Vehicles on Certain Islands'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §501, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §501, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Island vehicles and low-speed vehicles. The following provisions apply to vehicles operating on islands that have no public ways maintained or supported by the State.

A. Notwithstanding subsection 1, an automobile may be registered for an annual fee of \$2. A low-speed vehicle may be registered for an annual fee of \$4. The registrant must show evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482. The municipality may collect an additional \$4 fee annually to defray the cost of removing abandoned vehicles.

B. A low-speed vehicle may be operated on an island if the governing body of the municipality allows. A low-speed

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2 vehicle may be operated only on a road or street where the  
3 posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. A  
4 low-speed vehicle may cross at an intersection a road or  
5 street with a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per  
6 hour.

7 C. Any person operating a low-speed vehicle on an island  
8 must possess a valid driving license in any class.

10 **Sec. 4. Low-speed vehicle issues.** The Department of the  
11 Secretary of State and the Maine State Police shall review the  
12 potential issues that may arise from the use of low-speed  
13 vehicles in the State. This review must include an examination  
14 of the potential safety issues involved with low-speed vehicle  
15 use, the experience of the 24 other states that allow the use of  
16 these vehicles and the experience of any Maine islands that allow  
17 low-speed vehicles. The departments shall submit a report to the  
18 joint standing committee of the Legislature with jurisdiction  
19 over transportation matters by January 16, 2001. The joint  
20 standing committee of the Legislature with jurisdiction over  
21 transportation matters may report out a bill to implement any  
22 recommendations after discussion of the report.'

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

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26  
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28 **FISCAL NOTE**

29 The Bureau of State Police within the Department of Public  
30 Safety and the Department of the Secretary of State will incur  
31 some minor additional costs to submit a required report to the  
32 Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the existing  
33 budgeted resources of each department.'

34  
35  
36  
37  
38 **SUMMARY**

39 This amendment replaces portions of the original bill that  
40 allow low-speed vehicles throughout the State. It allows these  
41 vehicles to be operated on the 12 Maine islands that do not have  
42 any public ways maintained or supported by the State if the  
43 municipality chooses to allow them. The amendment combines this  
44 new provision with an existing provision for island vehicles to  
45 pay a reduced registration fee.

46 The amendment also requires the Secretary of State and the  
47 Maine State Police to study the issues raised by low-speed  
48 vehicle use in Maine.

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

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**