

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 212

S.P. 44

In Senate, January 18, 2001

An Act to Improve Child Care Funding.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation 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 LONGLEY of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston and
Representative: MURPHY of Berwick.

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

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Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §5327-A is enacted to read:

§5327-A. Child Care Fund

1. Fund established. The Child Care Fund, referred to in this section as the "fund," is established within the division as a dedicated nonlapsing fund.

2. Purpose. The commissioner shall use the fund to provide grants to programs that are dedicated to the improvement of child care programs.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §456-A is enacted to read:

§456-A. Start ME Right registration plate

1. Start ME Right plate. The Secretary of State, upon receiving an application and evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482, the annual motor vehicle registration fee required by section 501 and the voluntary contribution provided for in subsection 2, shall issue a registration certificate and a set of "Start ME Right" special registration plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates. These plates must bear identification numbers and letters.

2. Contribution to the Child Care Fund. "Start ME Right" special registration plates are not required for registration of a motor vehicle. A person may contribute to the Child Care Fund established in Title 22, section 5327-A by applying for the special registration plates and submitting, in addition to the annual motor vehicle registration fee required by section 501, a sum of \$20 credited as follows:

A. Fourteen dollars to the Child Care Fund established in Title 22, section 5327-A; and

B. Six dollars to the Highway Fund to reimburse the Secretary of State for costs associated with the production and issuance of the "Start ME Right" special registration plates.

3. Design. The Secretary of State shall determine a design for the "Start ME Right" special registration plates. If the design accommodates the use of numbers and letters as provided in section 453, the Secretary of State shall issue upon request "Start ME Right" plates that are also vanity plates. "Start ME

2 Right" plates are issued in accordance with the provisions of
this section and section 453.

4 4. Renewal fee. In addition to the regular motor vehicle
6 registration fee prescribed by law, the annual renewal
8 contribution for "Start ME Right" special registration plates is
\$15, which must be deposited with the Treasurer of State and
credited as follows:

10 A. Fourteen dollars to the Child Care Fund established in
12 Title 22, section 5327-A; and

14 B. One dollar to the Highway Fund to reimburse the
16 Secretary of State for costs associated with the production
and issuance of the "Start ME Right" special registration
plates.

18 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill establishes the Child Care Fund and the "Start ME
22 Right" special registration plate, under which \$14 of the
24 registration fee is dedicated to the improvement of child care
programs.