

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1380

S.P. 425

In Senate, March 5, 2001

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### An Act Regarding Uninsured Drivers.

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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 CATHCART of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representative BROOKS of Winterport and  
Senator GAGNON of Kennebec, Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, LORING  
of Penobscot Nation, PARADIS of Frenchville, THOMAS of Orono.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1601, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

6 **6-A. Suspension; accident.** The Secretary of State shall  
8 suspend the license of a person who is involved in a motor  
10 vehicle accident and causes damage to another motor vehicle or a  
12 person until that person has paid for the damage caused to the  
14 other motor vehicle or the person.

16 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1611, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
18 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

20 **3. Maintenance of insurance.** The owner or owners of any  
22 vehicle subject to this section shall maintain at all times the  
24 required amount of insurance or bond during the term of the  
26 vehicle's registration. For vehicles registered in this State,  
28 the Secretary of State shall immediately suspend or revoke,  
30 pursuant to chapter 23, the registration certificate and  
32 registration plates of any vehicle for which the insurance or  
34 bond in the amounts required is not maintained. Any person whose  
36 registration certificate, registration plates and operating  
38 authority license have been suspended or revoked pursuant to this  
40 section shall immediately return the registration certificate,  
42 registration plates and the operating authority license to the  
44 Secretary of State. An insurance company that becomes aware of a  
46 client who allows the insurance to lapse, cancels the insurance  
or in any way fails to meet the requirements of this section for  
a motor vehicle registered in this State immediately shall notify  
the Secretary of State of the identity of the motor vehicle owner  
and the registration number of the motor vehicle. For vehicles  
not required to be registered in this State, the Secretary of  
State shall suspend the person's operating authority license or  
right to operate in this State.

### SUMMARY

This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to suspend the  
license of an uninsured person that is involved in a motor  
vehicle accident and causes damage to another motor vehicle or a  
person until the operator has paid for all damages to the other  
motor vehicle or the person. The bill also requires an insurance  
company to notify the Secretary of State if an insured person  
allows the insurance to lapse on a motor vehicle.