

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

---

Legislative Document

No. 374

H.P. 294

House of Representatives, January 30, 2003

### An Act To Create Animal Shelter Special Registration Plates

---

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, PEAVEY-HASKELL of Greenbush, PINEAU of Jay, THOMAS of Orono, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, TWOMEY of Biddeford.

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

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20  
22  
24  
26  
28  
30  
32  
34  
36  
38  
40  
42  
44  
46  
48  
50

**Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3906-B, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 422, §3, is further amended to read:

**2. Animal Welfare Fund.** The commissioner shall deposit all license fees received pursuant to chapters 721, 723, 725 and 735 in a separate account established by the Treasurer of State and known as the Animal Welfare Fund. The commissioner shall deposit 1/2 of feed registration fees collected under section 714 in the Animal Welfare Fund. This account does not lapse, but continues from year to year. The commissioner shall pay from the Animal Welfare Fund the expense of furnishing blanks, stickers and tags, travel expenses and salaries for necessary personnel, payments to animal shelters and expenses incurred in the administration of this Part. All contributions to the Animal Welfare Fund, pursuant to Title 29-A, section 456-C must be used for payments to animal shelters.

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

**§456-C. Animal shelter plates**

**1. Animal shelter plates.** 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 contribution provided for in subsection 2, shall issue a registration certificate and a set of animal shelter special registration plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates. These plates must bear identification numbers and letters.

**2. Contribution to Animal Welfare Fund.** In addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee prescribed by law for the particular class of vehicle registered, the initial contribution for animal shelter plates is \$20, which must be deposited with the Treasurer of State and credited as follows:

**A.** Ten dollars to the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-B, subsection 2 for payments to animal shelters; and

**B.** Ten dollars to the Highway Fund for administrative and production costs.

**3. Design.** The Secretary of State shall determine a design for the animal shelter special registration plates. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters shall review the final design prior to manufacture of the plates. The Secretary of State shall issue

upon request animal shelter plates that are also vanity plates.  
Animal shelter plates are issued in accordance with the provisions of this section and section 453.

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

A. Ten dollars to the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-B, subsection 2 for payments to animal shelters; and

B. Five dollars to the Highway Fund for administrative and production costs.

**5. Reimbursement for production and issuance costs for first 2,000 plates.** The sponsor of the animal shelter plate pursuant to section 468, subsection 1 shall provide \$20,000 to the Secretary of State on or before December 1, 2003 for costs associated with the production and issuance of plates. The Secretary of State shall deposit these funds in the Specialty License Plate Fund in accordance with section 469, subsection 2. The Secretary of State shall then deposit fees collected through the sale of the first 2,000 plates in the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-B, subsection 2. Subsequently, the Treasurer of State shall reimburse the sponsor for the initial payment of \$20,000 from the Animal Welfare Fund.

**6. Reimbursement for production and issuance costs for plates produced after first 2,000 plates.** The Secretary of State shall deposit to the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-B, subsection 2 \$20 for each initial set of animal shelter registration plates and \$15 for each renewal of animal shelter registration plates. The Treasurer of State shall transfer annually from the Animal Welfare Fund \$10 for each initial set of animal shelter registration plates issued and \$5 for each renewal of animal shelter registration plates. This transfer is to reimburse the Secretary of State for costs associated with production and issuance of plates.

**7. Duplicate plates.** The Secretary of State shall issue an animal shelter plate in a 3-number and 3-letter combination sequence. Vanity plates may not duplicate vanity plates issued in another class of plate.

**8. Weight limit.** An animal shelter plate may be issued for a motor vehicle that does not exceed 9,000 pounds. A motor vehicle that exceeds 6,000 pounds is subject to the fees in section 504.

