

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 571

S.P. 179

In Senate, February 3, 2005

### **An Act To Allow a Trade-in Credit in the Calculation of the Automobile Excise Tax**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation 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 COWGER of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative RINES of Wiscasset and  
Senators: DAMON of Hancock, NASS of York, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, STRIMLING  
of Cumberland, TURNER of Cumberland, Representatives: MARLEY of Portland, MOODY  
of Manchester, RECTOR of Thomaston.

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

2  
4       **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1482, sub-§1, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 671, §32, is further amended to read:

6       C. For the privilege of operating a motor vehicle or camper  
8       trailer on the public ways, each motor vehicle, other than a  
10       stock race car, or each camper trailer to be so operated is  
12       subject to excise tax as follows, except as specified in  
14       subparagraph (3): a sum equal to 24 mills on each dollar of  
16       the adjusted maker's list price for the first or current  
18       year of model, 17 1/2 mills on each dollar of the adjusted  
20       maker's list price for the 2nd year, 13 1/2 mills on each  
22       dollar of the adjusted maker's list price for the 3rd year,  
24       10 mills on each dollar of the adjusted maker's list price  
26       for the 4th year, 6 1/2 mills on each dollar of the adjusted  
28       maker's list price for the 5th year and 4 mills on each  
30       dollar of the adjusted maker's list price for the 6th and  
32       succeeding years. The minimum tax is \$5 for a motor vehicle  
34       other than a bicycle with motor attached, \$2.50 for a  
36       bicycle with motor attached, \$15 for a camper trailer other  
38       than a tent trailer and \$5 for a tent trailer. The excise  
40       tax on a stock race car is \$5. For purposes of this  
42       paragraph, "adjusted maker's list price" means the maker's  
44       list price of the motor vehicle less any amount received for  
46       another motor vehicle being traded in toward the purchase of  
48       the motor vehicle being registered.  
50

(1) On new registrations of automobiles, trucks and  
truck tractors, the excise tax payment must be made  
prior to registration and is for a one-year period from  
the date of registration.

(2) Vehicles registered under the International  
Registration Plan are subject to an excise tax  
determined on a monthly proration basis if their  
registration period is less than 12 months.

(3) For commercial vehicles manufactured in model year  
1996 and after, the amount of excise tax due for trucks  
or truck tractors registered for more than 26,000  
pounds and for Class A special mobile equipment, as  
defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 70, is  
based on the purchase price in the original year of  
title rather than on the list price. Verification of  
purchase price for the application of excise tax is  
determined by the initial bill of sale or the state  
sales tax document provided at point of purchase. The  
initial bill of sale is that issued by the dealer to  
the initial purchaser of a new vehicle.

2 For motor vehicles being registered pursuant to Title 29-A,  
section 405, subsection 1, paragraph C, the excise tax must  
4 be prorated for the number of months in the registration.

6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill reduces the base value of a new motor vehicle for  
registration excise tax purposes to the maker's list price of the  
10 new motor vehicle less the amount received for any trade-in of  
another motor vehicle.