

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 735

H.P. 530

House of Representatives, February 10, 2005

### **An Act To Clarify Registration for Noncommercial Trucks and Registration Requirements for Nonresidents**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative SAVIELLO of Wilton.

Cosponsored by Representatives: MARLEY of Portland, MILLS of Farmington, MOODY of Manchester, SCHATZ of Blue Hill, THOMPSON of China, Senator: PERRY of Penobscot.

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

4           **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §101, sub-§62,** as amended by PL 1995, c.  
454, §1, is further amended to read:

6           **62. Resident.** "Resident" means a person who has declared  
or established residency in this State or has been domiciled in  
8           this State for a period of at least 30 days, except for  
nonresident persons in compliance with section 109, subsection 1.

10           Except for a nonresident person in compliance with section 109,  
12           subsection 1, a person is deemed to be a resident:

14           A. For all vehicles owned by that person that are garaged  
or maintained in this State; or

16           B. If engaged in the business of renting you-drive or  
18           you-haul vehicles, for an apportioned share of all vehicles  
based on the ratio of the mileage of vehicles operated in  
20           this State to the total mileage of vehicles operated both  
within and without the State.

22           **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §109, sub-§1, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
24           683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

26           A. A nonresident owner or operator, if that person has  
28           complied with the provisions of the laws on registration and  
licensing of the jurisdiction of residence and is in this  
30           State for fewer than 179 continuous days; and

32           **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §351, sub-§1-A,** as amended by PL 1999, c.  
68, §1, is further amended to read:

34           **1-A. Residents required to register.** An owner of a vehicle  
who becomes a resident of this State as defined in section 101,  
36           subsection 62 shall register that vehicle in this State within 30  
days of establishing residency. A person who operates or allows  
38           a vehicle that is not registered in accordance with this  
subsection to remain on a public way commits a traffic infraction  
40           pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A.

42           **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §501, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 790,  
Pt. C, §3 and affected by §19, is further amended to read:

44           **1. Automobiles; pickup trucks.** The fee for an automobile  
46           or pickup truck used for the conveyance of passengers or  
interchangeably for passengers or property is \$25.

48           An automobile used for the conveyance of passengers or property  
50           is a "combination" vehicle and may be issued a special plate with

the word "combination" instead of "Vacationland." A passenger vehicle used under contract with the State, a municipality or a school district to transport students must be designated as "combination." A vehicle owned or operated by parents or legal guardians is exempt from this subsection.

Commercial plates may not be issued for or displayed on an automobile.

~~The gross weight of a pickup truck registered as provided by this subsection may not exceed 6,000 pounds. An owner of a pickup truck who operates the pickup truck with a gross weight in excess of 6,000 pounds or the pickup truck drawing a semitrailer with a combined gross weight in excess of 6,000 pounds must register the truck as provided in section 504.~~

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a combination of vehicles consisting of a pickup truck as defined in section 101, subsection 55 and a semitrailer with a registered weight of 2,000 pounds or less may be registered under this section for the combined gross weight of the pickup truck and the semitrailer.

**Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §504, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 580, §2 and affected by §14 and amended by c. 790, Pt. C, §8 and affected by §19, is further amended by amending the first paragraph to read:

**1. Truck or truck tractor.** For a light truck, truck or truck tractor used for commercial purposes equipped with pneumatic tires, the following annual registration fee schedule applies.

## SUMMARY

This bill clarifies that seasonal nonresident visitors to Maine who are domiciled in this State for less than 179 days are not required to register their vehicles in this State. The bill also removes the requirement that noncommercial trucks in excess of 6,000 pounds be registered as commercial vehicles.