

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)



STATE LAW LIBRARY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 412

S.P. 156

In Senate, February 10, 2009

An Act To Create an Animal Welfare Trailer License Plate

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PLOWMAN of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senators: DAVIS of Cumberland, GOOLEY of Franklin, Representatives:
BEAULIEU of Auburn, CEBRA of Naples, COTTA of China, FOSSEL of Alna.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §456-G** is enacted to read:

3 **§456-G. Animal welfare trailer registration plate**

4 The Secretary of State shall issue animal welfare trailer registration plates for
5 trailers beginning November 1, 2009 in accordance with this section. An animal
6 welfare trailer registration plate is not required for registration of a trailer but is to
7 allow citizens to participate voluntarily to fund a program to benefit the welfare of
8 animals.

9 **1. Animal welfare trailer registration plate.** The Secretary of State, upon
10 receiving an application and evidence of payment of the registration fee required by
11 sections 511 and 512 and the administrative fee and voluntary contribution provided
12 for in subsection 2, shall issue an animal welfare trailer registration plate to be used
13 in lieu of a regular registration plate. The plate must bear identification numbers and
14 letters.

15 **2. Administrative fee and contribution to special programs.** A person may
16 contribute to the Animal Welfare Fund by applying for the animal welfare trailer
17 registration plate and submitting, in addition to the regular registration fee, a sum of
18 \$20 credited as follows:

19 A. Nine dollars to the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-
20 B, subsection 2;

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

22 C. One dollar to the Specialty License Plate Fund established under section 469.

23 **3. Design.** A sponsor must submit a design for the animal welfare trailer
24 registration plate to the Secretary of State for approval or modification in accordance
25 with section 468. The Secretary of State shall provide the final design to the joint
26 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters
27 prior to manufacture of the plates.

28 **4. Renewal fee.** In addition to the trailer registration fee prescribed by law, the
29 renewal contribution for an animal welfare trailer registration plate is \$15, which
30 must be deposited with the Treasurer of State at the time of renewal pursuant to
31 sections 511 and 512 and credited as follows:

32 A. Nine dollars to the Animal Welfare Fund established in Title 7, section 3906-
33 B, subsection 2;

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

35 C. One dollar to the Specialty License Plate Fund established under section 469.

36 **5. Transfer of fees.** On a quarterly basis, the Secretary of State shall transfer the
revenue from the issuance and renewal of the animal welfare trailer registration plates
to the Treasurer of State for deposit and crediting pursuant to subsections 2 and 4.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §468, sub-§8, as amended by PL 2007, c. 383, §5, is further amended to read:

8. Weight limit. A specialty license plate may be issued for an automobile or pickup truck that does not exceed 10,000 pounds. A specialty license plate may be issued for a trailer.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a specialty license plate for trailers to support animal welfare. The registration and renewal fees would support the Animal Welfare Fund, which helps support the expenses of furnishing animal license blanks, stickers and tags, travel expenses and salaries for animal welfare personnel, costs and payments to animal shelters and other expenses necessary in the administration of the laws concerning animal welfare.