

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 592**

H.P. 430

House of Representatives, February 17, 2009

**An Act To Increase Mandatory Minimum Insurance Requirements  
for Vehicles for Hire**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLAHERTY of Scarborough.  
Cosponsored by Senator BLISS of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BECK of Waterville, BRYANT of Windham, HINCK of Portland, MARTIN  
of Orono, MORRISON of South Portland, SMITH of Monmouth, Senator: BARTLETT of  
Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1611, sub-§2, ¶A**, as affected by PL 1995, c. 65, Pt. A,  
3 §153 and amended by Pt. B, §18 and affected by Pt. C, §15, is further amended to read:

4 A. Except as provided in paragraph E, there is a ~~\$350,000~~ \$500,000 combined  
5 single limit for rental vehicles, emergency vehicles and for-hire transportation  
6 vehicles for transporting freight or merchandise but not passengers in intrastate-  
7 exempt service or service exempted by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

8 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1611, sub-§2, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 703, §23, is  
9 further amended to read:

10 B. For vehicles used exclusively to transport passengers for hire between points  
11 within the State, including motor vehicles under contract with the State, a  
12 municipality or a school district for the transportation of students, but not vehicles  
13 defined as school buses in section 2301, subsection 5, there is a combined single limit  
14 of:

15 (1) ~~One hundred twenty five~~ Five hundred thousand dollars, ~~or split limits~~  
16 ~~consisting of \$50,000 per person and \$100,000 per occurrence for bodily injury~~  
17 ~~liability, and \$25,000 for property damage liability~~ for vehicles that are designed  
18 to carry no more than 3 passengers behind the driver's seat;

19 (2) ~~Three hundred thousand~~ One million dollars for vehicles that are designed to  
20 carry 4 to 7 passengers behind the driver's seat, including those vehicles under  
21 contract with the State, a municipality or a school district for the transportation of  
22 students;

23 (3) ~~Seven hundred fifty~~ One million five hundred thousand dollars for vehicles  
24 that are designed to carry 8 to 15 passengers behind the driver's seat;

25 (4) ~~One Three million five hundred thousand~~ dollars for vehicles that are  
26 designed to carry 16 to 30 passengers behind the driver's seat;

27 (5) ~~Two~~ Five million dollars for vehicles that are designed to carry 31 or more  
28 passengers behind the driver's seat; and

29 (6) Four hundred thousand dollars for vehicles registered to a transit district as  
30 defined in Title 30-A, section 3501.

31 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §1611, sub-§2, ¶E**, as affected by PL 1995, c. 65, Pt. A,  
32 §153 and enacted by Pt. B, §20 and affected by Pt. C, §15, is amended to read:

33 E. For rental trucks with a registered gross weight of 26,000 pounds or less, rented  
34 or leased for fewer than 30 days:

35 (1) There is a combined single limit of ~~\$125,000; or~~ \$500,000.

36 (2) ~~There is a split limit of \$50,000 per person or \$100,000 per occurrence for~~  
37 ~~bodily injury liability and \$25,000 for property damage liability.~~

**SUMMARY**

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This bill increases the required minimum insurance coverage for vehicles for hire, including emergency vehicles and rental vehicles.