MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AUGUSTA, MAINE

124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 673

S.P. 248

In Senate, February 24, 2009

An Act To Improve the Protection for Buyers of Motor Vehicles from Vehicles Labeled Lemons in Other States

Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and
Senator: RECTOR of Knox, Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, BUTTERFIELD of
Bangor, CLEARY of Houlton, WRIGHT of Berwick.

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1174, sub-§4, ¶F is enacted to read:

F. To fail to disclose in writing to a potential purchaser or lessee of a motor vehicle that the motor vehicle had previously been returned to the manufacturer pursuant to either a lemon law arbitration decision or a lemon law settlement agreement in a state other than this State if known to the dealer. If that information is known to the dealer, this disclosure must be clear and conspicuous. For the purpose of this section, "lemon law" refers to any state's certified dispute settlement law that establishes a state-certified arbitration procedure to settle consumer complaints that the consumer had been sold a vehicle that did not conform to all manufacturer express warranties and that the manufacturer had not been able to repair or correct the defect or condition that impaired the vehicle.

SUMMARY

This bill helps ensure that a Maine consumer who purchases a vehicle that had been returned to the manufacturer pursuant to another state's lemon law is notified of this fact if that information is known to the dealer before the consumer decides to purchase the motor vehicle.