

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 454

H.P. 347

House of Representatives, February 10, 2011

An Act To Permit Variation in Motor Vehicle Registration Expiration Dates

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative MOULTON of York. (BY REQUEST)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §405, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2
3 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

4 A. A registration expires on the last day of the month one year from the month of
5 issuance, unless the owner of the motor vehicle requests an earlier expiration month.

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

8 C. For the privilege of operating a motor vehicle or camper trailer on the public
9 ways, each motor vehicle, other than a stock race car, or each camper trailer to be so
10 operated is subject to excise tax as follows, except as specified in subparagraph (3): a
11 sum equal to 24 mills on each dollar of the maker's list price for the first or current
12 year of model, 17 1/2 mills for the 2nd year, 13 1/2 mills for the 3rd year, 10 mills for
13 the 4th year, 6 1/2 mills for the 5th year and 4 mills for the 6th and succeeding years.
14 The minimum tax is \$5 for a motor vehicle other than a bicycle with motor attached,
15 \$2.50 for a bicycle with motor attached, \$15 for a camper trailer other than a tent
16 trailer and \$5 for a tent trailer. The excise tax on a stock race car is \$5.

17 (1) On new registrations of automobiles, trucks and truck tractors, the excise tax
18 payment must be made prior to registration and is for a one-year period from the
19 date of registration or is determined on a monthly proration basis if the
20 registration period is less than 12 months.

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

24 (3) For commercial vehicles manufactured in model year 1996 and after, the
25 amount of excise tax due for trucks or truck tractors registered for more than
26 26,000 pounds and for Class A special mobile equipment, as defined in Title
27 29-A, section 101, subsection 70, is based on the purchase price in the original
28 year of title rather than on the list price. Verification of purchase price for the
29 application of excise tax is determined by the initial bill of sale or the state sales
30 tax document provided at point of purchase. The initial bill of sale is that issued
31 by the dealer to the initial purchaser of a new vehicle.

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

35 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill permits motor vehicle owners to choose the renewal date of their motor
37 vehicle registrations at the time of registration, in which case the excise tax is prorated for
38 the first year of registration.