MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1833

S.P. 650

In Senate, December 22, 2021

Resolve, To Exempt Specialty or Recognition Registration Plates Already in the Process of Being Created from the Moratorium on the Approval of New Motor Vehicle Registration Plates

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

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Presented by Senator BREEN of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, Representative: PIERCE of Falmouth.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, Resolve 2021, chapter 108 placed a 2-year moratorium on the approval of any new motor vehicle registration plates; and

Whereas, some specialty and recognition plate sponsors had already received approval to begin the signature collection process and fund-raising for their plates, but had not completed the process at the time the moratorium became effective; and

Whereas, these plate sponsors had already invested time and money in the process of creating their specialty and recognition plates and were unable to continue the process because of the moratorium, threatening a loss of funds and public support; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

- Sec. 1. Resolve 2021, c. 108, §3, enacted. Resolved: That Resolve 2021, c. 108, §3 is enacted to read:
- Sec. 3. Exemption. Resolved: That, notwithstanding section 1, a specialty or recognition plate sponsor whose plate was approved by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, sections 468 and 468-A prior to July 14, 2021 is authorized to continue the signature gathering process and bring forth enabling legislation for that plate.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

24 SUMMARY

This resolve provides an exemption to the temporary moratorium on the commencement, review and approval of new specialty or recognition registration plates by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles by allowing a plate sponsor whose plate was approved before the effective date of the moratorium to continue the signature gathering process and bring forth enabling legislation for that plate.