

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. No. 39

S. D. No. 30

In Senate, Jan. 27, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 1000 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Roberts of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relative to Motor Vehicles and the Law of the Road.

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

Section forty-eight of chapter two hundred and eleven of
2 the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word "issued" in the six-
4 tenth line the words 'and the month of January of the suc-
5 ceeding year,' so that said section as amended shall read as
6 follows:

'Sect. 48. The secretary shall furnish suitable register
2 number plates, seals and other distinguishing marks, with-
3 out charge, to every person whose vehicle is registered under
4 this act. Such plates shall be of a distinctly different color

5 or shade each year and shall be in such form as the secre-
6 tary may determine; and shall bear the numerals of the
7 year of issue, or the last two numerals of said year, the
8 word "Maine," or the abbreviation "Me." in letters not less
9 than one inch in height. The numerals of the register num-
10 ber thereon, except on motorcycle number plates, shall be
11 substantially not less than four inches high. The secretary
12 may select and issue a special distinguishing letter, mark or
13 design for number plates issued to manufacturers and deal-
14 ers; also for any temporary or other special classes of reg-
15 istration and for use on motorcycles, trucks, trailers, tractors,
16 and side cars, which are required to be registered under this
17 act.

Number plates so furnished shall be valid only for the
2 calendar year for which they are issued and the month of
3 January of the succeeding year. Each number plate dis-
4 played shall be horizontal and shall be so fastened as not to
5 swing, and its lower edges shall be at least twelve inches
6 from the ground. Not more than one set of number plates
7 shall be displayed upon any vehicles, except as may be other-
8 wise permitted by this act.

In the case of all motor vehicles and tractors, one number
2 plate shall be attached to the front and the other to the rear
3 of said vehicle, so that the plates and the registered number
4 thereon shall always be plainly visible. In the case of trail-
5 ers, semi-trailers, and side cars, one such plate shall be at-
6 tached to the rear thereof and shall be always plainly visible.

7 All plates shall be kept reasonably clean and the numbers
8 legible.

The certificate of registration shall always be carried on the
2 person of the operator or occupants, or in some easily ac-
3 cessible place in or about the vehicle therein described, ex-
4 cept that certificates of registration of dealers need not be
5 so carried.

If any number plate is lost or the register number thereon
2 becomes mutilated or illegible, the owner or person in con-
3 trol of the vehicle for which said number plate was fur-
4 nished, shall immediately place a temporary number plate
5 bearing his register number upon said vehicle. Such tem-
6 porary number plate shall conform to the register number
7 plate and shall be displayed as nearly as possible as herein
8 provided for said regular number plate, and such person
9 shall within twenty-four hours after such loss or mutilation
10 give notice thereof to the secretary and apply under oath
11 for new number plates; and thereupon the secretary, if sat-
12 isfied of the truth of the facts stated in the application, shall
13 supply a new set of number plates upon payment of a fee of
14 seventy-five cents for each plate.

If the secretary is unable to furnish immediately to any
2 person entitled thereto any plate or marker provided in this
3 act, he may issue a temporary certificate with temporary
4 number plates, which certificate shall be carried and said
5 plates shall be displayed upon said vehicle in the same man-
6 ner as required for regular certificates and number plates.

7 Whenever one of a set of number plates is lost and a new
8 set is issued, as provided in this section, the remaining plate
9 shall forthwith be returned to the secretary. In case plates
10 are lost in transportation, and the applicant shall certify
11 in the affidavit that the lost plates have not been received
12 by him and agrees that if they shall be received at some
13 later date to return them forthwith, the secretary, after a
14 thorough investigation, may furnish the applicant with a
15 second set of plates without additional charge.'