

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1

S. P. 16

In Senate, January 3, 1935.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Mr. Fernald of Waldo.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-FIVE

AN ACT Creating the Office of Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

Emergency Preamble. Whereas, the ever increasing congestion on the highways and the necessity of more complete supervision of registration of motor vehicles, and the observance of motor vehicle law is of the utmost importance to the people of the State of Maine, and

Whereas, the immediate creation of a separate department to take charge of motor vehicles will help remedy this situation, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of the state of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety; now therefore

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

Sec. 1. Term of registrar; election; bond; salary. There shall be a registrar of motor vehicles who shall serve for a term of 4 years from the date of his election or until his successor is chosen and qualified and who shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. The said registrar shall be elected by the legislature in joint convention by written ballot. He shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties before entering

thereupon, and shall furnish bond to the treasurer of state in the sum of \$10,000 conditioned on the faithful discharge of his duties, which said bond must meet the approval of the governor and council.

The said registrar shall receive a salary of \$5000 per year.

Sec. 2. Deputy registrar. The registrar of motor vehicles may appoint a chief deputy registrar for whose conduct he shall be accountable and who shall act for the said registrar in his absence.

In case of a vacancy in the office of the registrar by death, resignation or removal, the chief deputy shall act as registrar until a new registrar is chosen.

Sec. 3. Certain duties of secretary of state transferred. All the duties now imposed upon and powers now vested in the secretary of state for the administration of the motor vehicle laws with particular reference to those contained in chapter 29 and chapter 30 of the revised statutes and acts amendatory or pertaining thereto are hereby imposed upon and vested in the registrar of motor vehicles. All reports concerning the provisions of chapter 29 hitherto made to the secretary of state shall be hereafter made to the registrar of motor vehicles.

Sec. 4. Report. The said registrar shall prepare and present to the governor and council on or before February 1 of each year his report for the preceding calendar year.

Sec. 5. Appointment of inspectors. Chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out section 125 and by inserting a new section after section 121 thereof, to be numbered 121-A and to read as follows:

'Sec. 121-A. Appointment of inspectors. The registrar of motor vehicles may appoint such inspectors as he deems necessary to enforce the laws concerning motor vehicles, and the said inspectors are hereby vested with the same powers and duties throughout the several counties as sheriffs have in their respective counties to enforce the motor vehicle laws.'

Sec. 6. Statutory wording changed. Wherever in the revised statutes in any section that concerns the administration or enforcement of the motor vehicle or aviation law, the words "secretary of state" appear, the words 'registrar of motor vehicles' shall be substituted; and wherever the word "deputy" or similar words, referring to the deputy secretary of state in his execution of the motor vehicle laws, appears, it shall now refer to the deputy registrar of motor vehicles.

Sec. 7. Construction of this act. This act is intended to, and shall be construed as having, transferred all the duties and powers of the secretary of state concerning the administration and enforcement of the motor vehicle law to the registrar of motor vehicles, and all sections of the revised statutes are hereby amended to carry out this intent.

Sec. 8. First election. As soon as this act shall be signed by the governor, or passed over his veto, the 87th legislature shall proceed to elect the first registrar of motor vehicles to serve from the date of his election until his successor is elected by the 89th legislature and has qualified.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.