

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
94th LEGISLATURE

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 929, L. D. 402, Bill "An Act Relating to Motor Vehicle Licenses for Amputee Veterans."

Amend said Bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following emergency preamble:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, public law 663, 79th congress, as amended, authorized the veterans administration to supply free automobiles to certain amputee veterans of World War II; and

Whereas, automobiles have been given free, under said law, to 142 amputee veterans of Maine, who now must under existing legislation assume the personal expense of paying the fee for a motor vehicle operator's license before they may enjoy the use of such automobiles; and

Whereas, said fee must be paid prior to January 1st in order to enable the issuance of such operator's license for the current year; and

Whereas, the people of Maine recognize the fact that all they own and all the privileges which they continue to enjoy, they owe to those who have defended them on the field of battle; and that these amputee veterans should not, by state law, be put to any expense in enjoying the use of free automobiles given to them by a grateful federal government; 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, '

Further amend said Bill by inserting at the beginning of the 1st paragraph thereof after the enacting clause the following:

'Sec. 1.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of the underlined 2nd paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following underlined paragraph:

'Provided, however that the secretary of state, on application of any amputee veteran who has been the recipient of an automobile from the United States government under authority of P. L. 663, 79th congress, as amended, or any amputee veteran receiving

(over)

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compensation from the Veterans Administration for service connected disability who shall have a specially designed motor vehicle, and who is otherwise qualified to operate a motor vehicle in this state, shall receive a license to operate such automobile without the requirement of the payment of any fee.'

Further amend said Bill by adding at the end thereof the following paragraphs:

'Sec. 2. Effective date; refunds. The provisions of this act shall be retroactive to January 1, 1949. The secretary of state is authorized and directed to make such refunds as may be appropriate to give effect to the provisions of this act.

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

Filed by Mr. Chapman of Portland.

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