

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I F T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 920

H. P. 1345

House of Representatives, February 23, 1951.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Davis of Harrison.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Financial Responsibility Law.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 19, § 64, sub-§ I, ¶ F, amended. Paragraph F of subsection I of section 64 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:

'The insurance company or surety company may, at its election, specify on such certificate the expiration date of the motor vehicle liability policy or bond and, if such company elects to so provide, the policy or bond shall, on and after such date, be deemed terminated for purposes of sections 64 to 71, inclusive, unless such policy or bond is previously cancelled or superseded in accordance with the provisions of subsection VI of section 70. Where no expiration date is specified on the certificate, the policy or bond shall be deemed, for purposes of sections 64 to 71, inclusive, to continue in effect until it is cancelled or superseded in accordance with the provisions of subsection VI of section 70.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 19, § 66, sub-§ I, amended. Subsection I of section 66 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

I. Contents of report and duty of chief of state police. Where an accident has resulted in bodily injury to or death of any person, or in property damage to an apparent extent of \$100 or more, the accident report required by section 6 of chapter 13 shall contain, in a form prescribed by the secretary, information to enable the secretary to determine whether the requirements for the deposit of security and proof of financial responsibility are inapplicable by reason of the existence of insurance or other exceptions specified in this section. The driver, or the person acting for him in reporting, shall furnish such additional relevant information as the secretary shall require. Immediately after receipt of any accident report required by section 6 of chapter 13, the chief of the state police shall forward said report to the secretary. **The secretary may rely upon the accuracy of the information unless and until he has reason to believe that the information is erroneous.**

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 19, § 66, sub-§ I, ¶ D, additional. Subsection II of section 66 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding thereto a new paragraph to be lettered D, to read as follows:

D. Upon receipt of notice from the secretary which contains information that a motor vehicle liability policy was carried at the time of the accident, the insurance carrier shall within 15 days notify the secretary in such manner as he may require in case such policy was not in effect at the time of such accident. Where erroneous information with respect to the existence of insurance or other exceptions specified in this section is furnished to the secretary, he shall take appropriate action as above provided after the receipt by him of correct information with respect to such coverage or other exceptions.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 19, § 66, sub-§ II, ¶ D, re-lettered. Paragraph D of subsection II of section 66 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 140 of the public laws of 1947, is hereby re-lettered to be paragraph E of said subsection II.

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 19, § 66, sub-§ VII, additional. Section 66 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new subsection to be numbered VII, to read as follows:

VII. Penalty. Any person who gives information required in a report or otherwise as provided for in this section, knowing or having reason to believe such information is false, shall be punished by a fine of

not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.'

Sec. 6. R. S., c. 19, § 69, sub-§ I, amended. The 2nd sentence of subsection I of section 69 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Said insurance commissioner shall approve a form of policy which contains the name ~~and address and business~~ of the insured, a description of the motor vehicles and trailers or semi-trailers covered, with the premium charges therefor, the policy period, the limits of liability, and an agreement that insurance is provided in accordance with and subject to the provisions of sections 64 to 71, inclusive.'

Sec. 7. R. S., c. 19, § 70, sub-§ VI, additional. Section 70 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new subsection to be numbered VI, to read as follows:

'VI. Cancellation of policy or bond. No motor vehicle liability policy or bond certified as proof of financial responsibility pursuant to paragraph A of subsection II of this section shall be cancelled until at least 10 days after notice of cancellation of the insurance or bond so certified shall be filed in the office of the secretary, except that such a policy or bond subsequently procured and certified shall, on the effective date of its certification, terminate the insurance or bond previously certified with respect to any motor vehicle designated in both certificates.'

Sec. 8. R. S., c. 19, § 70, sub-§ VI, renumbered. Subsection VI of section 70 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes is hereby renumbered to be subsection VII of said section.