

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

One Hundred and Seventh Legislature

AT THE

1ST SPECIAL SESSION

JANUARY 19, 1976 TO APRIL 29, 1976

AND

2ND SPECIAL SESSION

JUNE 14, 1976

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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PORTLAND LITHOGRAPH COMPANY  
PORTLAND, MAINE  
1977

**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE  
One Hundred and Seventh Legislature  
AT THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
January 19, 1976 to April 29, 1976  
AND THE SECOND SPECIAL SESSION  
June 14, 1976

Supplementary to the Acts and Resolves of the Regular Session

[supplied from page 3097 of volume]

## CHAPTER 639

## AN ACT to Correct Certain Inequities in the Motor Vehicle Law.

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

Whereas, all vehicle registrations except registrations for semitrailers are paid on an annual basis; and

Whereas, chapter 589 of the public laws enacted by the 107th Legislature in regular session imposed a 100% increase in semitrailer fees, which increase relates to the 4 remaining years on the current 6-year plates and which increase, without further legislative relief, would all be due and payable in 1976; and

Whereas, the downturn in the national and state economy has placed extremely serious financial strains on those who have registered semitrailers and many of those registered semitrailers remain idle because of the current economic climate; and

Whereas, the Secretary of State needs legislative authority to issue regulations allowing for the payment of the semitrailer fee on an annual or biennial basis; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

29 MRSA § 245-A, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 589, § 12, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

With the concurrence of the Commissioner of Transportation, the Secretary of State is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the payment of the fees required under this section in annual or biennial installments. In promulgating such rules and regulations, the Secretary of State shall consider the financial impact of the registration fee on the registrants, the benefit or burden of such installment paying on the state revenues and the difficulty which the Motor Vehicle Division may encounter in administering this section. These provisions shall apply only to those semi-permanent registration plates in force on the effective date of this Act.

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