



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

Legislative Document

No. 1645

S.P. 636

In Senate, December 23, 2013

An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

Submitted by the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 23, 2013. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MAZUREK of Knox.

Cosponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Madawaska and

Senators: COLLINS of York, CRAVEN of Androscoggin, JACKSON of Aroostook,
VALENTINO of York, Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, HOBBS of Saco,
WILLETTE of Mapleton.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §101, sub-§11**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 381, Pt. B, §3, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **11. Bus.** "Bus" means a motor vehicle designed for carrying more than ~~46~~ 15
5 persons, including the operator.

6 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §406, sub-§§1 and 2**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A,
7 §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are repealed.

8 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §455, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 703, §2 and PL
9 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §6, is further amended to read:

10 **2. Plate design; optional environmental vanity plates.** The Secretary of State, the
11 Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Commissioner of
12 Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in
13 consultation with the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
14 transportation matters shall determine the plate design.

15 The design must accommodate the use of numbers and letters as provided in section 453.
16 Upon request and as provided by section 453, the Secretary of State shall issue
17 environmental plates that are also vanity plates. Environmental vanity plates are issued in
18 accordance with this section and section 453. The Secretary of State may modify class
19 codes and create unique identifiers for the purpose of expanding the program. ~~The annual~~
20 ~~service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund. Rules adopted~~
21 ~~pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375,~~
22 ~~subchapter 2-A.~~

23 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §456-C, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 240, Pt. LLLL,
24 §2, is further amended to read:

25 **1. Sportsman registration plates.** The Secretary of State, upon receiving an
26 application and evidence of payment of the registration fee required by section 501 and
27 the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482, shall issue a registration certificate and a
28 set of sportsman plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates. These plates must
29 bear identification numbers and letters. Vanity plates may not duplicate vanity plates
30 issued in another class of plate. The Secretary of State shall begin issuing ~~sportsmen~~
31 sportsman registration plates by April 1, 2008. Sportsman vanity plates are issued in
32 accordance with this section and section 453.

33 **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §515-B, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 734, §1, is
34 amended to read:

35 **3. Design.** The Secretary of State shall determine the design of the Purple Heart
36 motorcycle registration plate. Upon request and as provided by section 453, the Secretary
37 of State shall issue Purple Heart motorcycle registration plates that are also vanity plates.
38 Purple Heart vanity plates are issued in accordance with this section and section 453. ~~The~~
39 ~~annual service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund.~~

1 **Sec. 6. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 23, §1, is repealed
2 and the following enacted in its place:

3 **5. Application; issuance.** The following provisions apply to an application for and
4 the issuance of a disability plate or placard.

5 A. An application for a disability plate or placard must be accompanied by the
6 certificate of a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or registered nurse
7 attesting to the applicant's physical disability as defined in subsection 1. The
8 physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or registered nurse shall designate
9 the duration of the applicant's disability not to exceed 6 years or designate the
10 applicant's disability as permanent. The Secretary of State shall issue to an eligible
11 applicant disability plates and windshield placards upon request. A disability plate or
12 placard issued to a person for whom the duration of the person's disability has been
13 designated as not exceeding 6 years expires upon the expiration of the duration of the
14 disability as designated by the physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or
15 registered nurse.

16 B. When the Secretary of State determines the disability to be permanent from the
17 application, the disability plate or placard expires upon the expiration date of that
18 person's driver's license or nondriver identification card issued by this State. The
19 applicant is not required to continue to provide proof of disability upon renewal of
20 the applicant's disability plate or placard.

21 C. When the applicant's need for the disability plate or placard terminates or the
22 applicant dies, the disability plate or placard must be returned to the Secretary of
23 State. Notwithstanding subsection 2, paragraphs B and C, the provisions of this
24 subsection, as regards the issuance of a disability plate or placard for a person with a
25 permanent disability, apply only to that person.

26 **Sec. 7. 29-A MRSA §523, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 69, §1, is amended
27 to read:

28 **4. Veterans vanity plates.** Upon request and as provided by section 453, the
29 Secretary of State shall issue veterans registration plates that are also vanity plates.
30 Veterans registration vanity plates are issued in accordance with this section and section
31 453. ~~The annual service fee of \$15 for vanity plates is credited to the Highway Fund.~~

32 **Sec. 8. 29-A MRSA §1301, sub-§2-A**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 163, §1, is
33 further amended to read:

34 **2-A. Legal presence requirement.** The Secretary of State may not issue a license to
35 an applicant unless the applicant presents to the Secretary of State valid documentary
36 evidence of legal presence in the United States, except that the Secretary of State may
37 exempt a ~~person~~ citizen or legal permanent resident from the requirements of this
38 subsection if that person is renewing a noncommercial driver's license and that person has
39 continuously held a valid driver's license under this chapter since December 31, 1989 or
40 was born before December 1, 1964.

1 **Sec. 9. 29-A MRSA §1304, sub-§1, ¶H**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 381, Pt. B,
2 §16, is further amended to read:

3 H. A person under 21 years of age may not apply for a license unless:

4 (1) A period of 6 months has passed from the date the person was issued a
5 learner's permit; and

6 (2) The person has completed a minimum of 70 hours of driving, including 10
7 hours of night driving, while accompanied by a parent, guardian or licensed
8 driver at least 20 years of age. The parent, stepparent or guardian, or a spouse or
9 employer pursuant to section 1302, subsection 1, paragraphs B and C, must
10 certify the person's driving time on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State.
11 A parent, stepparent, guardian, spouse or employer who certifies a driving log
12 pursuant to this subsection and was not the licensed driver accompanying the
13 applicant must provide the name and address of the licensed driver who
14 accompanied the applicant for the majority of the ~~35~~ 70 hours of driving. The
15 Secretary of State may complete the certification for an applicant at least 18 years
16 of age and who has no parent, stepparent, guardian, spouse or employer if the
17 applicant provides the name and address of the licensed driver who accompanied
18 the applicant for the majority of the ~~35~~ 70 hours of driving.

19 A person 21 years of age or older is not required to submit certification of driving
20 time to the Secretary of State.

21 **Sec. 10. 29-A MRSA §1410, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 163, §2, is
22 further amended to read:

23 **8. Legal presence requirement.** The Secretary of State may not issue a nondriver
24 identification card to an applicant unless the applicant presents to the Secretary of State
25 valid documentary evidence of legal presence in the United States, except that the
26 Secretary of State may exempt a ~~person~~ citizen or legal permanent resident from the
27 requirements of this subsection if that person has continuously held a nondriver
28 identification card or valid driver's license under this chapter since December 31, 1989 or
29 was born before December 1, 1964.

30 **Sec. 11. 29-A MRSA §1851, sub-§§5 and 6**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt.
31 A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, are amended to read:

32 **5. Left after repair completed.** Left at a place of business after being repaired
33 pursuant to a written work order signed by the person requesting the repair work; ~~or~~

34 **6. Left on residential property.** Left on an individual's residential property for
35 more than 6 months; or

36 **Sec. 12. 29-A MRSA §1851, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

37 **7. Left at storage facility.** Left at a storage facility, if the owner has failed to pay
38 storage or rental fees.

