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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 684, L.D. 1912, Bill, “An Act To Encourage Responsible Teen Driving”

Amend the bill by inserting after section 15 the following:

Sec. 16. Task force. The Secretary of State, referred to in this section as "the secretary," shall convene a task force to review the laws governing teen driving and to make recommendations designed to enhance teen driver safety in the State.

1. Members. The secretary shall, at a minimum, invite the participation of teen drivers, parents of teen drivers, health care practitioners, members of the law enforcement community and representatives of the Maine Medical Association. The secretary shall make every effort to ensure that the membership reflects the geographic diversity of the State.

2. Chair; convening of initial meeting. The secretary shall designate a person to serve as chair of the task force and shall convene the initial meeting no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Act.

3. Duties. The task force shall review the existing laws governing teen driving and make recommendations designed to enhance teen driver safety in the State. In developing its proposal, the task force shall:

A. Propose changes to update and enhance the current driver education program, including proposing changes to make driver education more accessible to teens throughout the State, especially in rural areas; improving the method by which the curriculum is delivered; and considering whether to require more practical driving experience as part of the driver education program; and

B. Review the proposals endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics concerning a graduated driver’s licensing system for teen drivers, including the proposal to expand nighttime driving restrictions and improving and enforcing laws designed to prohibit the purchase, possession and consumption of alcohol by minors.

In developing its recommendations, the task force shall review graduated driver’s licensing systems that have been successfully adopted by other states, including but not limited to Massachusetts.

SENATE AMENDMENT

