



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 707

H.P. 498

House of Representatives, February 28, 2017

**An Act To Base the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax on the Purchase Price
of the Motor Vehicle**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ORDWAY of Standish. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and
Representatives: HAGGAN of Hampden, HANINGTON of Lincoln, HAWKE of Boothbay
Harbor, KINNEY of Limington, PICKETT of Dixfield, STETKIS of Canaan, TIMBERLAKE
of Turner, Senator: CUSHING of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1482, sub-§1, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 263, §1, is
3 further amended to read:

4 C. For the privilege of operating a motor vehicle, including a commercial motor
5 vehicle as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 17, paragraphs A and B and
6 special mobile equipment as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 70, or
7 camper trailer on the public ways, each motor vehicle, other than a stock race car, or
8 each camper trailer to be so operated is subject to excise tax as follows, ~~except as~~
9 ~~specified in subparagraph (3), (4) or (5):~~ a sum equal to 24 mills on each dollar of the
10 ~~maker's list~~ purchase price for the first or current year of model, 17 1/2 mills for the
11 2nd year, 13 1/2 mills for the 3rd year, 10 mills for the 4th year, 6 1/2 mills for the
12 5th year and 4 mills for the 6th and succeeding years. The minimum tax is \$5 for a
13 motor vehicle other than a bicycle with motor attached, \$2.50 for a bicycle with
14 motor attached, \$15 for a camper trailer other than a tent trailer and \$5 for a tent
15 trailer. The excise tax on a stock race car is \$5.

16 (1) On new registrations of automobiles, trucks and truck tractors, the excise tax
17 payment must be made prior to registration and is for a one-year period from the
18 date of registration.

19 (2) Vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan are subject to an
20 excise tax determined on a monthly proration basis if their registration period is
21 less than 12 months.

22 ~~(3) For commercial vehicles manufactured in model year 1996 and after, the~~
23 ~~amount of excise tax due for trucks or truck tractors registered for more than~~
24 ~~26,000 pounds and for Class A special mobile equipment, as defined in Title~~
25 ~~29-A, section 101, subsection 70, is based on the purchase price in the original~~
26 ~~year of title rather than on the list price. Verification of purchase price for the~~
27 ~~application of excise tax is determined by the initial bill of sale or the state sales~~
28 ~~tax document provided at point of purchase. The initial bill of sale is that issued~~
29 ~~by the dealer to the initial purchaser of a new vehicle.~~

30 ~~(4) For buses manufactured in model year 2006 and after, the amount of excise~~
31 ~~tax due is based on the purchase price in the original year of title rather than on~~
32 ~~the list price. Verification of purchase price for the application of excise tax is~~
33 ~~determined by the initial bill of sale or the state sales tax document provided at~~
34 ~~point of purchase. The initial bill of sale is that issued by the dealer to the initial~~
35 ~~purchaser of a new vehicle.~~

36 ~~(5) For trucks or truck tractors registered for more than 26,000 pounds that have~~
37 ~~been reconstructed using a prepackaged kit that may include a frame, front axle~~
38 ~~or body but does not include a power train or engine and for which a new~~
39 ~~certificate of title is required to be issued, the amount of excise tax due is based~~
40 ~~on the maker's list price of the prepackaged kit.~~

41 For motor vehicles being registered pursuant to Title 29-A, section 405, subsection 1,
42 paragraph C, the excise tax must be prorated for the number of months in the
43 registration.

