



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 807

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H.P. 514

House of Representatives, March 4, 2025

**An Act to Limit the Number of Free Motor Vehicle Registrations  
That May Be Provided to a Disabled Veteran and Reimburse  
Municipalities for the Loss of Excise Taxes**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 27, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford.  
Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and  
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, GUERRETTE of  
Caribou, HYMES of Waldo.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §523, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2023, c. 634, §8, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **2. Disabled veterans; special free license plates.** The Secretary of State, on  
5 application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section  
6 1482 or upon evidence of exemption from excise tax under Title 36, section 1483,  
7 subsection 12, shall issue, with no annual registration fee, a registration certificate and upon  
8 request special designating plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates for a  
9 vehicle with a registered gross weight of not more than 26,000 pounds to any 100%  
10 disabled veteran when that application is accompanied by certification from the United  
11 States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as  
12 to the veteran's permanent disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits. Upon  
13 request a disability placard may be issued at no fee. The Secretary of State may issue a  
14 registration certificate and special designating plates for no more than one vehicle 3  
15 vehicles owned by a veteran eligible under this subsection.

16 These special designating plates must bear the words "Disabled Veteran," which indicate  
17 that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran.

18 A municipality shall annually submit a report to the Secretary of State that includes the  
19 number of registration certificates issued under this subsection to determine the excise tax  
20 revenue annually lost. The Secretary of State shall notify the State Controller of the amount  
21 of revenue to be reimbursed to each municipality. The State Controller shall transfer to  
22 each municipality annually an amount based on the report for all registrations provided at  
23 no cost by the municipality under this subsection.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill specifies that only 3 registered motor vehicles may be exempt from excise  
26 taxes for a disabled veteran. The bill also requires the State Controller to fully reimburse  
27 municipalities for the excise tax revenue lost from this exemption based on a report from  
28 the Secretary of State.