

Raymond Cote  
South Paris  
LD 1732

“Calculating an automobile excise tax based upon the auto’s original MSRP doesn’t have any logic. I suggest if an excise tax has to be levied that it be based upon the current “Blue Book” value of the automobile. Case in point: The MSRP for the most expensive 1928 Dusenbergs was \$6,500. Today that car is worth \$1,000,000. Based upon the MSRP, the excise tax would be about \$50. However, the MSRP for a 1996 Mercedes SL320 is \$70,000. The current value of that car is \$5,000. The excise tax on that car is \$348! I just don’t understand how that makes any sense. The tax on a \$5,000 car is more than seven times the tax on a \$1,000,000 car!

As for the proposed legislation that the tax be waived for antique autos for people over 65, I would submit that it be “mandatory” and not up to the municipalities. If each local township gets to decide, they have absolutely no incentive to waive the tax and I submit that no one would ever get the benefit.

If it makes it more palatable and easier to pass, perhaps the structure of the bill could also have a relation to income, to wit: “The automobile excise tax on an antique automobile will be waived for any individual over the age of 65 and with an income of \$25,000 or less.”