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**Testimony of Lt. Bruce Scott
IN SUPPORT OF LD 2191**

**An Act to Establish a Biennial Inspection System for Vehicle Rental
Companies**

Senator Nangle, Rep. Crafts, and distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, my name is Lt. Bruce Scott, and I am the Commanding Officer of the State Police Traffic Safety Unit. I am here today to testify on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and the Maine State Police in Support of LD 2191.

As this Committee is well aware, there have been multiple bill attempts over the years that would allow for a two-year motor vehicle inspection sticker on rental vehicles. A common reason cited for this request is that the car rental companies aren't registering their vehicles in Maine due to the difficulty of getting the vehicles back to Maine for an annual inspection. It is believed that this has a negative impact on industry and forces some car rental companies to register their vehicles elsewhere, thereby creating an adverse fiscal impact on Maine's economy.

As a result of Resolve 2025, chapter 78, section 2, that directed the Secretary of State and the Maine State Police to Develop Recommendations for a Multiyear Registration and Inspection program for National Car Rental Companies, I suggested creating a change to the current law that would

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allow for a 2-year inspection sticker for car rental companies that register more than 1000 vehicles per year in the State of Maine. The car rental company would have to fill out an affidavit indicating that they will ensure their fleet of vehicles are properly maintained during that two-year period so that the vehicles meet or exceed the requirements listed in Maine Motor Vehicle Inspection Manual, MMVIM section 170.

This bill put forward by the Committee does exactly what the Maine State Police and the Department of Public Safety recommended, as it creates a mechanism for a two-year inspection sticker to be affixed to certain rental vehicles without compromising safety. The caveat being that the vehicles displaying the two-year inspections stickers are not allowed to be operated on a public way if the vehicle falls below the minimum safety standards in the MMVIM, created by rule, pursuant to Title 29-A section 1769.

Also, you may want to consider that there will be a small fiscal note of approximately \$15,000 a year that could easily be offset by doubling the cost of the inspection stickers sold to national car rental companies that choose to take advantage of this opportunity, should it become law. Approximately 5 to 8 thousand vehicles will qualify for the two-year inspection sticker.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote in favor of LD 2191.

On behalf of the Department of Public Safety and the Maine State Police, I thank you for your time and would be happy to try and answer any questions that you might have.

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