

## STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION **BUREAU OF INSURANCE** 34 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0034

Eric A. Cioppa Superintendent

April 1, 2021

Senator Heather Sanborn, Chair Representative Denise Tepler, Chair Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0100

L.D. 368, An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Proof of Financial Responsibility with Respect to Motor Vehicles

Dear Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler, and Members of the Committee:

L.D. 368 does not directly affect the business of insurance, and the Bureau of Insurance takes no position on the changes that it would make to the financial responsibility and insurance law. However, the Office of the Secretary of State consulted the Bureau of Insurance regarding the proposal, and my office has offered limited technical feedback. If you feel that my staff can assist the committee's deliberations in any way, feel free to contact my office.

It is worth noting that Maine boasts a highly competitive and affordable auto insurance market. State law also provides an assigned risk pool that ensures the availability of insurance for all licensed drivers. Not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of drivers prove their financial responsibility by securing an insurance policy that meets Maine's minimum limits. Proving financial responsibility by a deposit of funds with the Treasurer of State will require a large deposit of money. A driver doing so would forego claims adjustment services and legal defense benefits, which are important benefits included with an insurance policy.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Phone: (207) 624-8475

Eric A. Cioppa Superintendent

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