

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Fourth  
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

**Volume III**

June 17, 1969 to July 2, 1969

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**1st Special Session**

January 6, 1970 to February 7, 1970

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KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

from the table the fifth tabled and unassigned matter:

Bill, "An Act Relating to Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles" (H. P. 841) (L. D. 1079).

Tabled — June 16, 1969 by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

Pending — Motion by Senator Martin of Piscataquis to Indefinitely Postpone Bill.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz.

Mr. KATZ of Kennebec: Mr. President, I understand the pending motion is that of Senator Martin's to indefinitely postpone the bill. I would ask for a division and urge the Senate to vote against the motion. You will notice that we just killed the proposed bill to raise the registration fee. There is a feeling that it would be advisable to accept this, An Act Relating to Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles. We are probably going to have to shave a couple of million dollars from the budget that would normally go to the communities. This will flow about the same amount of money back to the communities and will balance things and make life, if not that much more pleasant, at least not agreeable, so I would ask for a division and urge you to vote against the motion.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Piscataquis, Senator Martin.

Mr. Martin of Piscataquis then was granted Leave to Withdraw his Motion to Indefinitely Postpone the Bill.

Thereupon, the Bill was Passed to be Enacted and signed by the President.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Wyman.

Mr. WYMAN of Washington: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: This moved a little bit too fast for me. Is it in order to reconsider Item 3? I would like to speak briefly on it.

The PRESIDENT: Under suspension of the rules, the Senator from Washington, Senator Wyman, moves that the Senate reconsider its action whereby it accepted the Minority Ought Not to Pass Re-

port of the Committee on Bill, "An Act Increasing Certain Motor Vehicle Registration Fees." (H. P. 326) (L. D. 413) Is this the pleasure of the Senate?

The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz.

Mr. KATZ of Kennebec: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: Reluctantly I rise to oppose the motion. I feel that this has been debated very substantially. We have just increased the burden on motor vehicles by some two million dollars by the immediate previous motion and, unless there is some new evidence, I would urge the Senate not to reconsider under suspension of the rules.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Wyman.

Mr. WYMAN of Washington: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: When we were debating the gas tax I did want to see these measures left until we could look at them all at once. The gas tax was finally left at one cent instead of two, the gas tax increase. Furthermore, in this last bill, which we passed Saturday, we have returned to the law the automobile trade-in allowance, the exemption, so that is quite a help to the motorists.

On this particular bill it is estimated that it will bring in \$5,500,000 and so reduce our bond issues. The Highway Department, as I understand it, will have the money either way, but it will reduce our bonded indebtedness by \$5,500,000. Thus, it will save over a two year period, at five per cent interest, \$550,000, or a half million dollars.

Now, it was pointed out Saturday the advantages of some of these tax measures, that they could be deductible on the income tax. This too is deductible on income tax and, while I am apparently am going to be outvoted, I just don't want to pass up this opportunity to point out that this will save the State of Maine, if we enact it, around half a million dollars in bond interest and that much expense. I hope that motion prevails to reconsider.