28 April 2017

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 444, "An Act To Increase the Maximum Registered Gross Weight Allowed for Vehicles with Disabled Veterans or Special Veterans Registration Plates.

This bill increases the maximum gross weight allowed for vehicles with disabled veterans or special veterans registration plates from 10,000 pounds to 26,000 pounds. I understand the purpose of the bill and appreciate it is an attempt to help our veterans. But I have concerns about creating carve-outs in statute for one group of special license plates and not others.

There are other plates that would still have this 10,000-pound vehicle limit, such as the "We Support Our Troops" plate and the "Breast cancer support services" plate. All of these special plates are important and should have consistent requirements in law.

For this reason, I return LD 444 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor