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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**TRANSPORTATION**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
126TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 643, L.D. 919, Bill, “An Act Concerning the Monetary Amount of Damage That Defines a Reportable Motor Vehicle Accident”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Require an Operator To Provide Evidence of Liability Insurance or Financial Responsibility at the Scene of an Accident'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2252**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 670, §1, is further amended to read:

**§2252. Accidents involving death or personal injury**

**1. Operator required to stop.** The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident anywhere that results in personal injury or death to a person shall immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident or stop as close as possible and immediately return to the scene.

**2. Provide information.** The operator shall remain at the scene and provide to the injured person or someone acting for the injured person or the operator or an occupant of the other vehicle:

- A. The operator's name and address;
- B. The registration number of the operator's vehicle; ~~and~~
- C. An opportunity to examine the driver's license if the ~~other~~ injured person or someone acting for the injured person or the operator or an occupant of the other vehicle so requests and the license is available; ~~and~~
- D. Evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility as required by section 1601 if the injured person or someone acting for the injured person or the operator or occupant of the other vehicle so requests.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1           **3. Render assistance.** The operator shall render reasonable assistance to an injured  
2 person.

3           **4. Violation.** A person commits a Class D crime if that person fails to comply with  
4 this section, except that a person commits a traffic infraction if that person fails to comply  
5 with subsection 2, paragraph D.

6           **5. Aggravated punishment category.** Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person  
7 commits a Class C crime if that person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to  
8 comply with this section and the accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in  
9 Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or death.

10           **6. Dismissal.** The clerk of the District Court Violations Bureau or trial court shall  
11 dismiss a Violation Summons and Complaint charging a person with a violation of  
12 subsection 2, paragraph D if that person:

13           A. Shows the issuing law enforcement officer satisfactory evidence of liability  
14 insurance or financial responsibility that was in effect at the time of the alleged  
15 violation and the issuing officer notifies the violations bureau of that fact; or

16           B. Files a timely answer to a Violation Summons and Complaint alleging a violation  
17 of subsection 2, paragraph D and that person presents to the court at the time of trial  
18 satisfactory evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility that was in  
19 effect at the time of the alleged violation.

20           **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2253**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected  
21 by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

22           **§2253. Accidents involving vehicle damage**

23           **1. Operator required to stop.** The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident  
24 that results in damage to an attended vehicle shall immediately stop the vehicle at the  
25 scene of the accident or stop as close as possible and immediately return to the scene.

26           **2. Provide information.** The operator shall remain at the scene and provide to the  
27 operator or an occupant of the other vehicle:

28           A. The operator's name and address;

29           B. The registration number of the operator's vehicle; ~~and~~

30           C. An opportunity to examine the driver's license if the other operator or an  
31 occupant so requests and the license is available; and

32           D. Evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility as required by section  
33 1601 if the other operator or an occupant so requests.

34           **3. Violation.** A person commits a Class E crime if that person fails to comply with  
35 this section, except that a person commits a traffic infraction if that person fails to comply  
36 with subsection 2, paragraph D.

37           **4. Dismissal.** The clerk of the District Court Violations Bureau or trial court shall  
38 dismiss a Violation Summons and Complaint charging a person with a violation of  
39 subsection 2, paragraph D if that person:

1           A. Shows the issuing law enforcement officer satisfactory evidence of liability  
2           insurance or financial responsibility that was in effect at the time of the alleged  
3           violation and the issuing officer notifies the violations bureau of that fact; or

4           B. Files a timely answer to a Violation Summons and Complaint alleging a violation  
5           of subsection 2, paragraph D and that person presents to the court at the time of trial  
6           satisfactory evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility that was in  
7           effect at the time of the alleged violation.

8           **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2254**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected  
9           by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

10           **§2254. Accidents involving unattended vehicle**

11           **1. Operator required to stop.** The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident  
12           that results in damage to an unattended vehicle shall immediately stop the vehicle at the  
13           scene of the accident or stop as close as possible and immediately return to the scene.

14           **2. Provide information.** The operator shall notify the owner or operator of the  
15           unattended vehicle or shall leave on that vehicle in a conspicuous place a statement  
16           containing:

- 17           A. The operator's name and address;  
18           B. The registration number of the operator's vehicle; and  
19           C. A statement of the circumstances of the accident.

20           **2-A. Evidence of financial responsibility.** The operator of a vehicle involved in an  
21           accident that results in damage to an unattended vehicle shall provide evidence of liability  
22           insurance or financial responsibility as required by section 1601 if the owner or operator  
23           of the unattended vehicle so requests.

24           **3. Violation.** A person commits a Class E crime if that person fails to comply with  
25           this section, except that a person commits a traffic infraction if that person fails to comply  
26           with subsection 2-A.

27           **4. Dismissal.** The clerk of the District Court Violations Bureau or trial court shall  
28           dismiss a Violation Summons and Complaint charging a person with a violation of  
29           subsection 2-A if that person:

30           A. Shows the issuing law enforcement officer satisfactory evidence of liability  
31           insurance or financial responsibility that was in effect at the time of the alleged  
32           violation and the issuing officer notifies the violations bureau of that fact; or

33           B. Files a timely answer to a Violation Summons and Complaint alleging a violation  
34           of subsection 2-A and that person presents to the court at the time of trial satisfactory  
35           evidence of liability insurance or financial responsibility that was in effect at the time  
36           of the alleged violation.

37           **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §2255**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected  
38           by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

