

## OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

Date: February 23, 2021  
To: Transportation Committee  
From: Sam Praver, Legislative Analyst

### LD 266 – An Act To Create the Maine Lighthouse Trust Registration Plate

**SUMMARY:** This bill creates the Maine Lighthouse Trust special registration plate to support lighthouse restoration and preservation efforts.

#### TESTIMONY:

**Proponents:** *Sen. Deschambault, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Maine Lighthouse Trust, Maine Lighthouse Museum, Lighthouse History Research Institute, Thomas R. Dutton, Russell Lowell, Walter Fowski*

- Maine is known around the world as “The Lighthouse State,” and has the largest concentration of these historic beacons. As well as being visually appealing, the new Maine lighthouse license plate will be a traveling billboard helping to draw attention to our state's historic lighthouses.
- The goal of the Trust is to raise money for all of Maine's Lighthouse community. These accrued funds will be distributed in the form of grants to statewide lighthouse organizations for the ongoing preservation, restoration and education and awareness of Maine's historic sentinels.
- This particular plate has met all the obligations within 29A section 468 in 2018 and in 2019 has deposited the \$50,000 required startup cost with the Secretary of State.

#### CURRENT STATUTE OR LAW:

The Legislature has set in statute a process for Bureau of Motor Vehicles to follow in establishing new specialty plates. That process is in 29-A MRS §468 (Specialty License Plates) and 29-A MRS §468-A (Recognition License Plates).

#### NOTES:

This is a repeat of a bill before the Transportation Committee during the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. That bill was voted out of committee “Ought to Pass,” but never received final action due to the shutdown.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

See attached preliminary fiscal impact statement.



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 266

LR 882(01)

## An Act To Create the Maine Lighthouse Trust Registration Plate

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Sen. Deschambault of York

Committee: Transportation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
Highway Fund	\$42,407	(\$18,454)	(\$20,343)	(\$21,965)
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
Highway Fund	\$52,287	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$11,500	\$32,671	\$37,124	\$40,905
<b>Revenue</b>				
Highway Fund	\$9,880	\$18,454	\$20,343	\$21,965
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$12,650	\$35,938	\$40,836	\$44,996

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill proposes the Maine Lighthouse Trust specialty registration plate. The Department of Secretary of State would require a one-time Highway Fund allocation of \$52,287 in fiscal year 2021-22 to manufacture the plates. The Department would also require an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation of \$11,500 and 32,671, respectively, in fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 to remit funds to the Maine Lighthouse Trust. Highway Fund revenues would be increased by \$9,880 and \$18,454, respectively, in fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 and Other Special Revenue Funds revenues would be increased by \$12,650 and \$35,938, respectively, in fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Sec. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077**

Initiative: Allocates funds for the Maine Lighthouse Trust from registration and renewal fees for the specialty registration plates.

	2021-22	2022-23
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>		
All Other	\$11,500	\$32,671
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<u>\$11,500</u>	<u>\$32,671</u>

**Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077**

Initiative: Allocates funds for the costs of manufacturing the Maine Lighthouse Trust specialty registration plates.

	2021-22	2022-23
<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>		
All Other	\$52,287	\$0
<b>HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$52,287</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2021-22	2022-23
<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	\$52,287	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	\$11,500	\$32,671
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u>\$63,787</u>	<u>\$32,671</u>