

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
SENATE BILL NO. 384
94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Transportation April 11, 2007 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 384 Do Pass by Consent. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(21)(f).

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1752L.04C

AN ACT

To repeal sections 301.130 and 301.301, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to stolen license plate tabs, with an emergency clause for a certain section.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 301.130 and 301.301, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 301.130 and 301.301, to read as follows:

301.130. 1. The director of revenue, upon receipt of a proper application for registration,
2 required fees and any other information which may be required by law, shall issue to the
3 applicant a certificate of registration in such manner and form as the director of revenue may
4 prescribe and a set of license plates, or other evidence of registration, as provided by this section.
5 Each set of license plates shall bear the name or abbreviated name of this state, the words
6 "SHOW-ME STATE", the month and year in which the registration shall expire, and an
7 arrangement of numbers or letters, or both, as shall be assigned from year to year by the director
8 of revenue. The plates shall also contain fully reflective material with a common color scheme
9 and design for each type of license plate issued pursuant to this chapter. The plates shall be
10 clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive. Special plates for qualified disabled
11 veterans will have the "DISABLED VETERAN" wording on the license plates in preference to
12 the words "SHOW-ME STATE" and special plates for members of the national guard will have
13 the "NATIONAL GUARD" wording in preference to the words "SHOW-ME STATE".

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

14 2. The arrangement of letters and numbers of license plates shall be uniform throughout
15 each classification of registration. The director may provide for the arrangement of the numbers
16 in groups or otherwise, and for other distinguishing marks on the plates.

17 3. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross weight in
18 excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, local
19 transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers, motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters and
20 driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director of revenue as provided for in subsection
21 3 of section 301.030, or with the state highways and transportation commission as otherwise
22 provided in this chapter, but only one license plate shall be issued for each such vehicle except
23 as provided in this subsection. The applicant for registration of any property-carrying
24 commercial motor vehicle may request and be issued two license plates for such vehicle, and if
25 such plates are issued the director of revenue may assess and collect an additional charge from
26 the applicant in an amount not to exceed the fee prescribed for personalized license plates in
27 subsection 1 of section 301.144.

28 4. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letter "D" preceding the
29 number, and the director may place upon the plates other letters or marks to distinguish
30 commercial motor vehicles and trailers and other types of motor vehicles.

31 5. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this state unless it
32 shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license plates issued by the director of
33 revenue or the state highways and transportation commission and authorized by section 301.140.
34 Each such plate shall be securely fastened to the motor vehicle in a manner so that all parts
35 thereof shall be plainly visible and reasonably clean so that the reflective qualities thereof are not
36 impaired. **Each such plate may be encased in a transparent cover so long as the plate is**
37 **plainly visible and its reflective qualities are not impaired.** License plates shall be fastened
38 to all motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of
39 twelve thousand pounds on the front and rear of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than
40 forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The
41 license plates on trailers, motorcycles, motortricycles and motorscooters shall be displayed on
42 the rear of such vehicles, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plate
43 on buses, other than school buses, and on trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed
44 in excess of twelve thousand pounds shall be displayed on the front of such vehicles not less than
45 eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon
46 right side up or if two plates are issued for the vehicle pursuant to subsection 3 of this section,
47 displayed in the same manner on the front and rear of such vehicles. The license plate or plates
48 authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence that the
49 required fees have been paid.

50 6. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually or biennially a tab or set of tabs as
51 provided by law as evidence of the annual payment of registration fees and the current
52 registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of plates. Beginning January 1, 2010, the director may
53 prescribe any additional information recorded on the tab or tabs to ensure that the tab or tabs
54 positively correlate with the license plate or plates issued by the department of revenue for such
55 vehicle. Such tabs shall be produced in each license bureau office.

56 (2) The vehicle owner to whom a tab or set of tabs is issued shall affix and display such
57 tab or tabs in the designated area of the license plate, no more than one per plate.

58 (3) A tab or set of tabs issued by the director of revenue when attached to a vehicle in
59 the prescribed manner shall be prima facie evidence that the registration fee for such vehicle has
60 been paid.

61 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the director of revenue shall issue plates
62 for a period of at least six years.

63 (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant to section
64 301.041, the plate issued by the highways and transportation commission shall be a permanent
65 nonexpiring license plate for which no tabs shall be issued. Nothing in this section shall relieve
66 the owner of any vehicle permanently registered pursuant to this section from the obligation to
67 pay the annual registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring license plate shall
68 be returned to the highways and transportation commission upon the sale or disposal of the
69 vehicle by the owner to whom the permanent nonexpiring license plate is issued, or the plate may
70 be transferred to a replacement commercial motor vehicle when the owner files a supplemental
71 application with the Missouri highways and transportation commission for the registration of
72 such replacement commercial motor vehicle. Upon payment of the annual registration fee, the
73 highways and transportation commission shall issue a certificate of registration or other suitable
74 evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such evidence of payment shall be carried at all times
75 in the vehicle for which it is issued.

76 (6) Upon the sale or disposal of any vehicle permanently registered under this section,
77 or upon the termination of a lease of any such vehicle, the permanent nonexpiring plate issued
78 for such vehicle shall be returned to the highways and transportation commission and shall not
79 be valid for operation of such vehicle, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement vehicle
80 when the owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri highways and transportation
81 commission for the registration of such replacement vehicle. If a vehicle which is permanently
82 registered under this section is sold, wrecked or otherwise disposed of, or the lease terminated,
83 the registrant shall be given credit for any unused portion of the annual registration fee when the
84 vehicle is replaced by the purchase or lease of another vehicle during the registration year.

85 7. The director of revenue and the highways and transportation commission may
86 prescribe rules and regulations for the effective administration of this section. No rule or portion
87 of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been
88 promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024, RSMo.

89 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, owners of motor
90 vehicles other than apportioned motor vehicles or commercial motor vehicles licensed in excess
91 of eighteen thousand pounds gross weight may apply for special personalized license plates.
92 Vehicles licensed for eighteen thousand pounds that display special personalized license plates
93 shall be subject to the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 of section 301.030.

94 9. Commencing January 1, 2009, the director of revenue shall cause to be reissued new
95 license plates of such design as directed by the director consistent with the terms, conditions, and
96 provisions of this section and this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in
97 addition to all other fees required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with license
98 plates that expire between January 1, 2009, and December 31, 2011, applicants for registration
99 of trailers or semitrailers with license plates that expire between January 1, 2009, and December
100 31, 2011, and applicants for registration of vehicles that are to be issued new license plates shall
101 pay an additional fee, based on the actual cost of the reissuance, to cover the cost of the newly
102 reissued plates required by this subsection. The additional fee prescribed in this subsection shall
103 not be charged to persons receiving special license plates issued under section 301.073 or
104 301.443. Historic motor vehicle license plates registered pursuant to section 301.131 and
105 specialized license plates are exempt from the provisions of this subsection.

301.301. **1.** Any person replacing a stolen license plate tab **issued on or after January**
2 **1, 2009,** may receive at no cost up to two sets of two license plate tabs per year when the
3 application for the replacement tab is accompanied with a police report that is corresponding
4 with the stolen license plate tab.

5 **2. Any person replacing a stolen license plate tab issued prior to January 1, 2009,**
6 **may receive at no cost up to two sets of two license plate tabs per year when the application**
7 **for the replacement tab is accompanied with a notarized affidavit verifying that such**
8 **license plate tab or tabs were stolen.**

Section B. Because of the need to provide Missouri motorists with a method to replace
2 stolen license plate tabs without administrative red tape and because of the need to verify the
3 payment of registration fees, the repeal and reenactment of section 301.301 is deemed necessary
4 for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and are hereby
5 declared to be an emergency within the meaning of the constitution, and the repeal and
6 reenactment of section 301.301 shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

✓