

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 794

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MAYER.

Read 1st time January 19, 2010, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4480S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 301.130, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to license plates for property-carrying commercial motor vehicles.

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

Section A. Section 301.130, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 301.130, to read as follows:

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

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

21 3. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a
22 gross weight in excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying
23 commercial motor vehicles, local transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers,
24 motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters and driveaway vehicles shall be
25 registered with the director of revenue as provided for in subsection 3 of section
26 301.030, or with the state highways and transportation commission as otherwise
27 provided in this chapter, but only one license plate shall be issued for each such
28 vehicle, **except as provided in this subsection. The applicant for**
29 **registration of any property-carrying commercial vehicle may request**
30 **and be issued two license plates for such vehicle, and if such plates are**
31 **issued the director of revenue may assess and collect an additional**
32 **charge from the applicant in an amount not to exceed the fee**
33 **prescribed for personalized license plates in subsection 1 of section**
34 **301.144.**

35 4. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letters
36 and numbers as prescribed by section 301.560, and the director may place upon
37 the plates other letters or marks to distinguish commercial motor vehicles and
38 trailers and other types of motor vehicles.

39 5. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this
40 state unless it shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license
41 plates issued by the director of revenue or the state highways and transportation
42 commission and authorized by section 301.140. Each such plate shall be securely
43 fastened to the motor vehicle or trailer in a manner so that all parts thereof shall
44 be plainly visible and reasonably clean so that the reflective qualities thereof are
45 not impaired. Each such plate may be encased in a transparent cover so long as
46 the plate is plainly visible and its reflective qualities are not impaired. License
47 plates shall be fastened to all motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck
48 tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds on the
49 front and rear of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight
50 inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The
51 license plates on trailers, motorcycles, motortricycles and motorscooters shall be
52 displayed on the rear of such vehicles, with the letters and numbers thereon right
53 side up. The license plate on buses, other than school buses, and on trucks,
54 tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand
55 pounds shall be displayed on the front of such vehicles not less than eight nor
56 more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers

57 thereon right side up or if two plates are issued for the vehicle pursuant to
58 subsection 3 of this section, displayed in the same manner on the front and rear
59 of such vehicles. The license plate or plates authorized by section 301.140, when
60 properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence that the required fees have been
61 paid.

62 6. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually or biennially a tab or
63 set of tabs as provided by law as evidence of the annual payment of registration
64 fees and the current registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of
65 plates. Beginning January 1, 2010, the director may prescribe any additional
66 information recorded on the tab or tabs to ensure that the tab or tabs positively
67 correlate with the license plate or plates issued by the department of revenue for
68 such vehicle. Such tabs shall be produced in each license bureau office.

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

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

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

77 (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant
78 to section 301.041, the plate issued by the highways and transportation
79 commission shall be a permanent nonexpiring license plate for which no tabs
80 shall be issued. Nothing in this section shall relieve the owner of any vehicle
81 permanently registered pursuant to this section from the obligation to pay the
82 annual registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring license
83 plate shall be returned to the highways and transportation commission upon the
84 sale or disposal of the vehicle by the owner to whom the permanent nonexpiring
85 license plate is issued, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement
86 commercial motor vehicle when the owner files a supplemental application with
87 the Missouri highways and transportation commission for the registration of such
88 replacement commercial motor vehicle. Upon payment of the annual registration
89 fee, the highways and transportation commission shall issue a certificate of
90 registration or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such
91 evidence of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is
92 issued.

93 (6) Upon the sale or disposal of any vehicle permanently registered under
94 this section, or upon the termination of a lease of any such vehicle, the permanent
95 nonexpiring plate issued for such vehicle shall be returned to the highways and
96 transportation commission and shall not be valid for operation of such vehicle, or
97 the plate may be transferred to a replacement vehicle when the owner files a
98 supplemental application with the Missouri highways and transportation
99 commission for the registration of such replacement vehicle. If a vehicle which
100 is permanently registered under this section is sold, wrecked or otherwise
101 disposed of, or the lease terminated, the registrant shall be given credit for any
102 unused portion of the annual registration fee when the vehicle is replaced by the
103 purchase or lease of another vehicle during the registration year.

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

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

115 9. No later than January 1, 2009, the director of revenue shall commence
116 the reissuance of new license plates of such design as directed by the director
117 consistent with the terms, conditions, and provisions of this section and this
118 chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in addition to all other fees
119 required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with license plates that
120 expire during the period of reissuance, applicants for registration of trailers or
121 semitrailers with license plates that expire during the period of reissuance and
122 applicants for registration of vehicles that are to be issued new license plates
123 during the period of reissuance shall pay the cost of the plates required by this
124 subsection. The additional cost prescribed in this subsection shall not be charged
125 to persons receiving special license plates issued under section 301.073 or
126 301.443. Historic motor vehicle license plates registered pursuant to section
127 301.131 and specialized license plates are exempt from the provisions of this
128 subsection. Except for new, replacement, and transfer applications, permanent

129 nonexpiring license plates issued to commercial motor vehicles and trailers
130 registered under section 301.041 are exempt from the provisions of this
131 subsection.

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