

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 759

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CUNNINGHAM (86).

Read 1st time April 28, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

0869L.021

AN ACT

To repeal section 301.130, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to 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Section A. Section 301.130, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 301.130, to read as follows: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 for registration, required fees and any other information which may be required by law, shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration in such manner and form as the director of revenue may prescribe and a set of license plates, or other evidence of registration, as provided herein. Each set of license plates shall bear the name or abbreviated name of this state, the words "SHOW-ME STATE", the month and year in which the registration shall expire, and an arrangement of numbers or letters, or both, as shall be assigned from year to year by the director of revenue. Special plates for qualified disabled veterans will have the "DISABLED VETERAN" wording on the license plates in preference to the words "SHOW-ME STATE" and special plates for members of the national guard will have the "NATIONAL GUARD" wording in preference to the words "SHOW-ME STATE".

2. The arrangement of letters and numbers of license plates shall be uniform throughout each classification of registration.

3. The background of all license plates, or the letters and numerals thereof, shall be coated with a material which will reflect the lights of other vehicles. The nature and specifications of this material shall be determined after a public hearing by the director of

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

17 revenue, director of prison industries, and superintendent of the state highway patrol, and shall
18 meet the standards established by the state transportation department.

19 4. Figures on license plates, except those which may be used to designate gross weights
20 for which commercial motor vehicles are registered, shall not be less than three inches in height
21 and the strokes thereof not less than five-sixteenths of an inch in width. In the case of
22 motorcycles and motortricycles, the letters and figures shall be not less than one inch in height
23 and the strokes thereof one-eighth of an inch in width. The director may provide for the
24 arrangement of the numbers in groups or otherwise, and for other distinguishing marks on the
25 plates.

26 5. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross weight in
27 excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, local
28 transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers, motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters and
29 driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director of revenue as provided for in subsection
30 3 of section 301.030[, but only one license plate shall be issued for each such vehicle]. **All**
31 **property-carrying commercial motor vehicles registered at a gross weight in excess of**
32 **twelve thousand pounds and all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles shall be**
33 **issued two license plates, and local transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers,**
34 **motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters, and driveaway vehicles shall be issued only one**
35 **license plate.**

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

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

53 authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence that the
54 required fees have been paid.

55 8. (1) The director of revenue shall issue annually a tab or set of tabs as evidence of the
56 annual payment of registration fees and the current registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of
57 plates; except that the director shall annually issue a new license plate or set of plates as provided
58 in this section for vehicles registered pursuant to subsection 2 of section 301.277, commercial
59 motor vehicles in excess of twelve thousand pounds, trailers, buses and dealers.

60 (2) The vehicle owner to whom a tab or set of tabs is issued shall affix and display such
61 tab or tabs on the middle of the license plate, no more than one per plate.

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

64 (4) Except as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the director of revenue shall
65 issue plates for a period of at least five years.

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

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

87 9. The director of revenue may prescribe rules and regulations for the effective
88 administration of this section. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of

89 this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of
90 section 536.024, RSMo.