FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 785

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES LOW (39) (Sponsor), TALBOY, NORR, HOLSMAN, NASHEED, DARROUGH, HUGHES, BURNETT, SKAGGS, CORCORAN, LAMPE, ZIMMERMAN, STORCH, LeVOTA, LOWE (44), YOUNG, OXFORD, CASEY, CHAPPELLE-NADAL, CURLS, EL-AMIN AND BLAND (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 7, 2007 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

0210L.01I

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AN ACT

To repeal sections 136.055, 301.032, 301.130, 301.140, 301.160, 301.290, 301.300, 301.301, and 301.302, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof nine new sections relating to motor vehicle windshield stickers, with an effective date.

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

Section A. Sections 136.055, 301.032, 301.130, 301.140, 301.160, 301.290, 301.300,

- 2 301.301, and 301.302, RSMo, are repealed and nine new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be
- 3 known as sections 136.055, 301.032, 301.130, 301.140, 301.160, 301.290, 301.300, 301.301,
- 4 and 301.302, to read as follows:
- 136.055. 1. Any person who is selected or appointed by the state director of revenue to
- 2 act as an agent of the department of revenue, whose duties shall be the sale of motor vehicle
- 3 licenses and the collection of motor vehicle sales and use taxes under the provisions of section
- 4 144.440, RSMo, and who receives no salary from the department of revenue, shall be authorized
 - to collect from the party requiring such services additional fees as compensation in full and for
- 6 all services rendered on the following basis:
- 7 (1) For each motor vehicle or trailer license sold, renewed or transferred--two dollars and
- 8 fifty cents beginning January 1, 1998; and four dollars beginning July 1, 2000; and five dollars
- 9 beginning August 28, 2002, for those licenses biennially renewed pursuant to section 301.147,
- 10 RSMo. Beginning July 1, 2003, for each motor vehicle or trailer license sold, renewed or

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.

transferred--three dollars and fifty cents and seven dollars for those licenses sold or biennially renewed pursuant to section 301.147, RSMo;

- 13 (2) For each application or transfer of title--two dollars and fifty cents beginning January 14 1, 1998;
- 15 (3) For each instruction permit, nondriver license, chauffeur's, operator's or driver's 16 license issued for a period of three years or less--two dollars and fifty cents and five dollars for 17 licenses or instruction permits issued or renewed for a period exceeding three years;
- 18 (4) For each notice of lien processed--two dollars and fifty cents beginning August 28, 19 2000;
 - (5) No notary fee or other fee or additional charge shall be paid or collected except for electronic telephone transmission reception--two dollars.
 - 2. All fees charged shall not exceed those in this section. Beginning July 1, 2003, the fees imposed by this section shall be collected by all permanent branch offices and all full-time or temporary offices maintained by the department of revenue.
 - 3. Any person acting as agent of the department of revenue for the sale and issuance of licenses and other documents related to motor vehicles shall have an insurable interest in all license plates, licenses, [tabs] **window stickers**, forms and other documents held on behalf of the department.
 - 4. The fee increases authorized by this section and approved by the general assembly were requested by the fee agents. All fee agent offices shall display a three foot by four foot sign with black letters of at least three inches in height on a white background which states:
- The increased fees approved by the
- 33 Missouri Legislature and charged by
- this fee office were requested by the
- 35 fee agents.

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- 301.032. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 301.030 and 301.035 to the contrary, the director of revenue shall establish a system of registration on a calendar year basis of all fleet vehicles owned or purchased by a fleet owner registered pursuant to this section. The director of revenue shall prescribe the forms for such fleet registration and the forms and procedures for the registration updates prescribed in this section. Any owner of ten or more motor vehicles which must be registered in accordance with this chapter may register as a fleet owner. All registered fleet owners may, at their option, register all motor vehicles included in the fleet on a calendar year basis pursuant to this section in lieu of the registration periods provided in sections 301.030 and 301.035. The director shall issue an identification number to
- 10 each registered owner of fleet vehicles.

2. All fleet vehicles included in the fleet of a registered fleet owner shall be registered during April each year or on a prorated basis as provided in subsection 3 of this section. Fees of all vehicles in the fleet to be registered on a calendar year basis shall be payable not later than the last day of April of each year. The fees for vehicles added to the fleet which must be licensed at the time of registration shall be payable at the time of registration, except that when such vehicle is licensed between July first and September thirtieth the fee shall be three-fourths the annual fee, when licensed between October first and December thirty-first the fee shall be one-half the annual fee and when licensed on or after January first the fee shall be one-fourth the annual fee.

- 3. At any time during the calendar year in which an owner of a fleet purchases or otherwise acquires a vehicle which is to be added to the fleet or transfers plates to a fleet vehicle, the owner shall present to the director of revenue the identification number as a fleet number and may register the vehicle for the partial year as provided in subsection 2 of this section. The fleet owner shall also be charged a transfer fee of two dollars for each vehicle so transferred pursuant to this subsection.
- 4. All fleet vehicles registered pursuant to this section shall be issued a special license plate which shall have the words "Fleet Vehicle" in place of the words "Show-Me State" in the manner prescribed by the advisory committee established in section 301.129. Such license plates shall be made with fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive, as prescribed by section 301.130. Fleet vehicles shall be issued multiyear license plates as provided in this section which shall not require issuance of a renewal [tab] **window sticker**. Upon payment of appropriate registration fees, the director of revenue shall issue a registration certificate or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such evidence of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued. The director of revenue shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing the procedure for application and issuance of fleet vehicle license plates.
- 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 307.350 to 307.390, RSMo, to the contrary, a fleet vehicle registered in Missouri is exempt from the requirements of sections 307.350 to 307.390, RSMo, if at the time of the annual fleet registration, such fleet vehicle is situated outside the state of Missouri.
- 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 by this section. 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. The plates shall also contain fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design for each type of license plate issued pursuant to this chapter. The plates shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive. 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. The director may provide for the arrangement of the numbers in groups or otherwise, and for other distinguishing marks on the plates.
- 3. All property-carrying commercial motor vehicles to be registered at a gross weight in excess of twelve thousand pounds, all passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, local transit buses, school buses, trailers, semitrailers, motorcycles, motortricycles, motorscooters and driveaway vehicles shall be registered with the director of revenue as provided for in subsection 3 of section 301.030, or with the state highways and transportation commission as otherwise provided in this chapter, but only one license plate shall be issued for each such vehicle except as provided in this subsection. The applicant for registration of any property-carrying commercial motor vehicle may request and be issued two license plates for such vehicle, and if such plates are issued the director of revenue may assess and collect an additional charge from the applicant in an amount not to exceed the fee prescribed for personalized license plates in subsection 1 of section 301.144.
- 4. The plates issued to manufacturers and dealers shall bear the letter "D" preceding the number, and the director may place upon the plates other letters or marks to distinguish commercial motor vehicles and trailers and other types of motor vehicles.
- 5. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated on any highway of this state unless it shall have displayed thereon the license plate or set of license plates issued by the director of revenue or the state highways and transportation commission and authorized by section 301.140. Each such plate shall be securely fastened to the motor vehicle in a manner so that all parts thereof shall be plainly visible and reasonably clean so that the reflective qualities thereof are not impaired. License plates shall be fastened to all motor vehicles except trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds on the front and rear of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plates on trailers, motorcycles, motortricycles and motorscooters shall be displayed on the rear of such vehicles, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up. The license plate on buses, other than school buses, and on trucks, tractors, truck tractors or truck-tractors licensed in excess of twelve thousand pounds shall

be displayed on the front of such vehicles not less than eight nor more than forty-eight inches above the ground, with the letters and numbers thereon right side up or if two plates are issued for the vehicle pursuant to subsection 3 of this section, displayed in the same manner on the front and rear of such vehicles. The license plate or plates authorized by section 301.140, when properly attached, shall be prima facie evidence that the required fees have been paid.

- 6. (1) **Beginning January 1, 2009,** the director of revenue shall issue annually or biennially a [tab or set of tabs] **window sticker, to be placed on the front windshield of the motor vehicle,** as provided by law as evidence of the annual payment of registration fees and the current registration of a vehicle in lieu of the set of plates. **The window sticker shall not be issued for motorcycle or trailer registrations.** Beginning January 1, 2010, the director may prescribe any additional information recorded on the [tab or tabs to ensure that the tab or tabs] **window sticker** positively correlate with the license plate or plates issued by the department of revenue for such vehicle. Such [tabs] **window stickers** shall be produced in each license bureau office.
- (2) [The vehicle owner to whom a tab or set of tabs is issued shall affix and display such tab or tabs in the designated area of the license plate, no more than one per plate.] The window sticker shall be placed on the inside front window in an area prescribed by the director of revenue.
- (3) A [tab or set of tabs] **window sticker** issued by the director of revenue when attached to a vehicle in the prescribed manner shall be prima facie evidence that the registration fee for such vehicle has been paid.
- (4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the director of revenue shall issue plates for a period of at least six years.
- (5) For those commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered pursuant to section 301.041, the plate issued by the highways and transportation commission shall be a permanent nonexpiring license plate for which no [tabs] **window sticker** shall be issued. Nothing in this section shall relieve the owner of any vehicle permanently registered pursuant to this section from the obligation to pay the annual registration fee due for the vehicle. The permanent nonexpiring license plate shall be returned to the highways and transportation commission upon the sale or disposal of the vehicle by the owner to whom the permanent nonexpiring license plate is issued, or the plate may be transferred to a replacement commercial motor vehicle when the owner files a supplemental application with the Missouri highways and transportation commission for the registration of such replacement commercial motor vehicle. Upon payment of the annual registration fee, the highways and transportation commission shall issue a certificate of registration or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual fee, and such evidence of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued.

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

- 7. The director of revenue and the highways and transportation commission may prescribe rules and regulations for the effective administration of this section. [No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024, RSMo.] Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2008, shall be invalid and void.
- 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, owners of motor vehicles other than apportioned motor vehicles or commercial motor vehicles licensed in excess of eighteen thousand pounds gross weight may apply for special personalized license plates. Vehicles licensed for eighteen thousand pounds that display special personalized license plates shall be subject to the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 of section 301.030.
- 9. Commencing January 1, 2009, the director of revenue shall cause to be reissued new license plates of such design as directed by the director consistent with the terms, conditions, and provisions of this section and this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in addition to all other fees required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with license plates that expire between January 1, 2009, and December 31, 2011, applicants for registration of trailers or semitrailers with license plates that expire between January 1, 2009, and December 31, 2011, and applicants for registration of vehicles that are to be issued new license plates shall pay an additional fee, based on the actual cost of the reissuance, to cover the cost of the newly reissued plates required by this subsection. The additional fee prescribed in this subsection shall not be charged to persons receiving special license plates issued under section 301.073 or

301.443. Historic motor vehicle license plates registered pursuant to section 301.131 and specialized license plates are exempt from the provisions of this subsection.

301.140. 1. Upon the transfer of ownership of any motor vehicle or trailer, the certificate of registration and the right to use the number plates shall expire and the number plates **and window sticker** shall be removed by the owner at the time of the transfer of possession, and it shall be unlawful for any person other than the person to whom such number plates were originally issued to have the same in his or her possession whether in use or not; except that the buyer of a motor vehicle or trailer who trades in a motor vehicle or trailer may attach the license plates from the traded-in motor vehicle or trailer to the newly purchased motor vehicle or trailer. The operation of a motor vehicle with such transferred plates shall be lawful for no more than thirty days. **The requirement of a window sticker shall not be required during the thirty-day time frame.** As used in this subsection, the term "trade-in motor vehicle or trailer" shall include any single motor vehicle or trailer sold by the buyer of the newly purchased vehicle or trailer, as long as the license plates for the trade-in motor vehicle or trailer are still valid.

- 2. In the case of a transfer of ownership the original owner may register another motor vehicle under the same number, upon the payment of a fee of two dollars, and payment of a fee as prescribed in section 301.300 for a replacement window sticker, if the motor vehicle is of horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, not in excess of that originally registered. When such motor vehicle is of greater horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a greater fee is prescribed, applicant shall pay a transfer fee of two dollars, the fee prescribed in section 301.300 for a replacement window sticker, and a pro rata portion for the difference in fees. When such vehicle is of less horsepower, gross weight or (in case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a lesser fee is prescribed, applicant shall not be entitled to a refund.
- 3. License plates may be transferred from a motor vehicle which will no longer be operated to a newly purchased motor vehicle by the owner of such vehicles. The owner shall pay a transfer fee of two dollars, and payment of a fee as prescribed in section 301.300 for a replacement window sticker, if the newly purchased vehicle is of horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, not in excess of that of the vehicle which will no longer be operated. When the newly purchased motor vehicle is of greater horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle) seating capacity, for which a greater fee is prescribed, the applicant shall pay a transfer fee of two dollars, the fee prescribed in section 301.300 for a replacement window sticker, and a pro rata portion of the difference in fees. When the newly purchased vehicle is of less horsepower, gross weight or (in the case of a passenger-carrying commercial motor

vehicle) seating capacity, for which a lesser fee is prescribed, the applicant shall not be entitled to a refund.

- 4. Upon the sale of a motor vehicle or trailer by a dealer, a buyer who has made application for registration, by mail or otherwise, may operate the same for a period of thirty days after taking possession thereof, if during such period the motor vehicle or trailer shall have attached thereto, in the manner required by section 301.130, number plates issued to the dealer. Upon application and presentation of satisfactory evidence that the buyer has applied for registration, a dealer may furnish such number plates to the buyer for such temporary use. In such event, the dealer shall require the buyer to deposit the sum of ten dollars and fifty cents to be returned to the buyer upon return of the number plates as a guarantee that said buyer will return to the dealer such number plates within thirty days. The director shall issue a temporary permit or paper plate authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle or trailer by a buyer for not more than thirty days of the date of purchase.
- 5. The temporary permit or paper plate shall be made available by the director of revenue and may be purchased from the department of revenue upon proof of purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer for which the buyer has no registration plate available for transfer, or from a dealer upon purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer for which the buyer has no registration plate available for transfer. The director shall make temporary plates or permits available to registered dealers in this state in sets of ten plates or permits. The fee for the temporary permit or plate shall be seven dollars and fifty cents for each permit or plate issued. No dealer shall charge more than seven dollars and fifty cents for each permit issued. The permit or plate shall be valid for a period of thirty days from the date of purchase of a motor vehicle or trailer, or from the date of sale of the motor vehicle or trailer by a dealer for which the purchaser obtains a permit or plate as set out above.
- 6. The permit or plate shall be issued on a form prescribed by the director and issued only for the applicant's use in the operation of the motor vehicle or trailer purchased to enable the applicant to legally operate the vehicle while proper title and registration plate are being obtained, and shall be displayed on no other vehicle. Permits or paper plates issued pursuant to this section shall not be transferable or renewable and shall not be valid upon issuance of proper registration plates for the motor vehicle or trailer. The director shall determine the size and numbering configuration, construction, and color of the permit and plate.
- 7. The dealer or authorized agent shall insert the date of issuance and expiration date, year, make, and manufacturer's number of vehicle on the paper plate or permit when issued to the buyer. The dealer shall also insert such dealer's number on the paper plate. Every dealer that issues a temporary permit or paper plate shall keep, for inspection of proper officers, a correct record of each permit or plate issued by recording the permit or plate number, buyer's name and

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71 address, year, make, manufacturer's number of vehicle on which the permit or plate is to be used, 72 and the date of issuance.

- 8. Upon the transfer of ownership of any currently registered motor vehicle wherein the owner cannot transfer the license plates due to a change of vehicle category, the owner may surrender the license plates issued to the motor vehicle and receive credit for any unused portion of the original registration fee against the registration fee of another motor vehicle. Such credit shall be granted based upon the date the license plates are surrendered. No refunds shall be made on the unused portion of any license plates surrendered for such credit.
- 301.160. Upon approval of the application for registration of a motor vehicle or trailer and when the required fee has been paid to the department of revenue, the department shall forward or deliver to the applicant the registration receipt and the number of license plates 3 prescribed for the vehicle or trailer by section 301.130, or renewal [tabs] window stickers if appropriate. The attachment to the motor vehicle or trailer specified in the application of current 6 license plates shall be prima facie evidence that the fees have been paid for such license.
 - 301.290. 1. Correctional enterprises of the department of corrections shall purchase, erect and maintain all of the machinery and equipment necessary for the manufacture of the license plates and [tabs] window stickers issued by the director of revenue, and of signs used by the state transportation department. Beginning on January 1, 2010, correctional enterprises shall no longer erect and maintain [tabs] window stickers for the department of revenue.
 - 2. The director of revenue shall procure all plates issued by [him] the director, and the state transportation department shall procure all signs used by it from correctional enterprises, unless an emergency arises and correctional enterprises cannot furnish the plates, [tabs] window stickers, or signs.
 - 3. Correctional enterprises shall furnish the plates and signs at such a price as will not exceed the price at which such plates and signs may be obtained upon the open market, but in no event shall such price be less than the cost of manufacture, including labor and materials.
- 13 4. All moneys derived from the sale of the plates, [tabs] window stickers, and signs 14 shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the working capital revolving fund as provided 15 in section 217.595, RSMo.
- 301.300. 1. In event of the loss, theft, mutilation or destruction of any certificate of ownership, number plate, [tab or set of tabs] or window sticker issued by the director of 3 revenue, the lawful holder thereof shall, within five days, file with the director of revenue, an affidavit showing such fact, and shall, on the payment of a fee of eight dollars and fifty cents, obtain a duplicate or replacement of such plate, certificate, [tab or set of tabs] or window sticker. Any duplicate certificate issued for any "motor vehicle primarily for business use", as defined in section 301.010, shall be issued only to the owner of record.

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8 2. Upon filing affidavit of lost, stolen, mutilated or destroyed certificate of registration, 9 the director of revenue shall issue to the lawful owner a duplicate or replacement thereof upon 10 payment of a fee of eight dollars and fifty cents.

- 3. Vehicle owners who elect not to transfer or renew multiyear plates shall be charged a fee equal to that charged for a lost plate in addition to the registration fee prescribed by law at the time the new plate or plates are issued.
- 4. Notwithstanding subsection 1 of this section, a new or used motor vehicle dealer may obtain a duplicate or replacement title in the owner's name if the owner's title has been lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed and is not available for assignment. In order to obtain the duplicate or replacement title from the department of revenue, the licensed dealer shall procure a power of attorney from the owner authorizing the dealer to obtain a duplicate or replacement title in the owner's name and sign any title assignments on the owner's behalf. The application to the department of revenue for the duplicate or replacement title shall be accompanied by the executed power of attorney, or a copy thereof, and the application shall contain the appropriate mailing address of the dealer. The director of the department of revenue is authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this subsection, and shall design all necessary forms required by this subsection. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are 30 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2005, shall be invalid and void.

301.301. Any person replacing a stolen [license plate tab] window sticker may receive at no cost up to two [sets of two license plate tabs] window stickers per year when the application for the replacement [tab] window sticker is accompanied with a police report that is corresponding with the stolen [license plate tab] window sticker.

301.302. A citation shall not be issued to any person stopped by law enforcement for a missing [license plate tab or tabs] window sticker if such person indicates that the [tab or tabs have window sticker has been stolen and a check on such person's vehicle registration reveals that the vehicle is properly registered. A law enforcement officer may issue a warning under these circumstances. In the event a citation is improperly issued to a person for a missing [tabs] window sticker when the requirements of this section are met, any court costs shall be waived.

Section B. Section A of this act shall become effective January 1, 2009.

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