

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**SENATE BILL NO. 856**  
**94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Reported from the Committee on Transportation April 10, 2008 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 856 Do Pass by Consent. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(21)(f).

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

3293L.03C

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**AN ACT**

To repeal section 301.130, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to license plates.

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

Section A. Section 301.130, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 301.130 and 301.3155, to read as follows: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 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".

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 letters and numbers as  
29 prescribed by section 301.560, and the director may place upon the plates other letters or marks  
30 to distinguish 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 or trailer in a manner so that all  
35 parts thereof shall be plainly visible and reasonably clean so that the reflective qualities thereof  
36 are not 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 to  
38 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. No later than January 1, 2009, the director of revenue shall commence the reissuance  
95 of new license plates of such design as directed by the director consistent with the terms,  
96 conditions, and provisions of this section and this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this  
97 section, in addition to all other fees required by law, applicants for registration of vehicles with  
98 license plates that expire during the period of reissuance, applicants for registration of trailers  
99 or semitrailers with license plates that expire during the period of reissuance and applicants for  
100 registration of vehicles that are to be issued new license plates during the period of reissuance  
101 shall pay the cost of the plates required by this subsection. The additional cost prescribed in this  
102 subsection shall not be charged to persons receiving special license plates issued under section  
103 301.073 or 301.443. Historic motor vehicle license plates registered pursuant to section 301.131  
104 and specialized license plates are exempt from the provisions of this subsection. **Permanent**  
105 **nonexpiring license plates issued to commercial motor vehicles and trailers registered**  
106 **under section 301.041 are exempt from the provisions of this subsection.**

**301.3155. 1. Any person who has been awarded the military service award known**  
2 **as the "Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal" may apply for Armed Forces Expeditionary**  
3 **Medal motor vehicle license plates for any motor vehicle such person owns, either solely**  
4 **or jointly, other than an apportioned motor vehicle or a commercial motor vehicle licensed**  
5 **in excess of eighteen thousand pounds gross weight.**

6           **2. Any such person shall make application for Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal**  
7 **license plates on a form provided by the director of revenue and furnish such proof as a**  
8 **recipient of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal as the director may require. The**  
9 **director shall then issue license plates bearing letters or numbers or a combination thereof**  
10 **as determined by the director with the words "ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY**  
11 **MEDAL" in place of the words "SHOW-ME STATE". Such license plates shall be made**  
12 **with fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly**  
13 **visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive, as prescribed by section 301.130. Such**

14 plates shall also be inscribed with the words "expeditionary service" and bear a  
15 reproduction of the armed forces expeditionary service ribbon.

16       3. There shall be a fifteen-dollar fee in addition to the regular registration fees  
17 charged for each set of Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal license plates issued pursuant  
18 to this section. A fee for the issuance of personalized license plates pursuant to section  
19 301.144 shall not be required for plates issued pursuant to this section. There shall be no  
20 limit on the number of license plates any person qualified pursuant to this section may  
21 obtain so long as each set of license plates issued pursuant to this section is issued for  
22 vehicles owned solely or jointly by such person. License plates issued pursuant to the  
23 provisions of this section shall not be transferable to any other person except that any  
24 registered co-owner of the motor vehicle shall be entitled to operate the motor vehicle with  
25 such plates for the duration of the year licensed in the event of the death of the qualified  
26 person.

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