

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 626

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RUTH.

1443H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 144.070 and 301.032, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to motor vehicles.

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

Section A. Sections 144.070 and 301.032, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 144.070 and 301.032, to read as follows:

144.070. 1. At the time the owner of any new or used motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor which was acquired in a transaction subject to sales tax under the Missouri sales tax law makes application to the director of revenue for an official certificate of title and the registration of the motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor as otherwise provided by law, the owner shall present to the director of revenue evidence satisfactory to the director of revenue showing the purchase price exclusive of any charge incident to the extension of credit paid by or charged to the applicant in the acquisition of the motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor, or that no sales tax was incurred in its acquisition, and if sales tax was incurred in its acquisition, the applicant shall pay or cause to be paid to the director of revenue the sales tax provided by the Missouri sales tax law in addition to the registration fees now or hereafter required according to law, and the director of revenue shall not issue a certificate of title for any new or used motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor subject to sales tax as provided in the Missouri sales tax law until the tax levied for the sale of the same under sections 144.010 to 144.510 has been paid as provided in this section or is registered under the provisions of subsection 5 of this section.

2. As used in subsection 1 of this section, the term "purchase price" shall mean the total amount of the contract price agreed upon between the seller and the applicant in the acquisition

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.

18 of the motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor, regardless of the medium of payment
19 therefor.

20 3. In the event that the purchase price is unknown or undisclosed, or that the evidence
21 thereof is not satisfactory to the director of revenue, the same shall be fixed by appraisalment by
22 the director.

23 4. The director of the department of revenue shall endorse upon the official certificate
24 of title issued by the director upon such application an entry showing that such sales tax has been
25 paid or that the motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor represented by such certificate is
26 exempt from sales tax and state the ground for such exemption.

27 5. Any person, company, or corporation engaged in the business of renting or leasing
28 motor vehicles, trailers, boats, or outboard motors, which are to be used exclusively for rental
29 or lease purposes, and not for resale, may apply to the director of revenue for authority to operate
30 as a leasing **or rental** company **and pay an annual fee of two hundred fifty dollars for such**
31 **authority**. Any company approved by the director of revenue may pay the tax due on any motor
32 vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor as required in section 144.020 at the time of registration
33 thereof or in lieu thereof may pay a sales tax as provided in sections 144.010, 144.020, 144.070
34 and 144.440. A sales tax shall be charged to and paid by a leasing company which does not
35 exercise the option of paying in accordance with section 144.020, on the amount charged for
36 each rental or lease agreement while the motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor is
37 domiciled in this state. Any motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor which is leased as
38 the result of a contract executed in this state shall be presumed to be domiciled in this state.

39 6. **Every applicant to be a lease or rental company shall furnish with the**
40 **application a corporate surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit, as defined in section**
41 **400.5-102, issued by any state or federal financial institution in the penal sum of one**
42 **hundred thousand dollars, on a form approved by the department. The bond or**
43 **irrevocable letter of credit shall be conditioned upon the lease or rental company**
44 **complying with the provisions of any statutes applicable to lease or rental companies, and**
45 **the bond shall be an indemnity for any loss sustained by reason of the acts of the person**
46 **bonded when such acts constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the lease or**
47 **rental license. The bond shall be executed in the name of the state of Missouri for the**
48 **benefit of all aggrieved parties or the irrevocable letter of credit shall name the state of**
49 **Missouri as the beneficiary; except that, the aggregate liability of the surety or financial**
50 **institution to the aggrieved parties shall, in no event, exceed the amount of the bond or**
51 **irrevocable letter of credit. The proceeds of the bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall**
52 **be paid upon receipt by the department of a final judgment from a Missouri court of**
53 **competent jurisdiction against the principal and in favor of an aggrieved party.**

54 7. Any corporation may have one or more of its divisions separately apply to the director
55 of revenue for authorization to operate as a leasing company, provided that the corporation:

56 (1) Has filed a written consent with the director authorizing any of its divisions to apply
57 for such authority;

58 (2) Is authorized to do business in Missouri;

59 (3) Has agreed to treat any sale of a motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor from
60 one of its divisions to another of its divisions as a sale at retail;

61 (4) Has registered under the fictitious name provisions of sections 417.200 to 417.230
62 each of its divisions doing business in Missouri as a leasing company; and

63 (5) Operates each of its divisions on a basis separate from each of its other divisions.
64 However, when the transfer of a motor vehicle, trailer, boat or outboard motor occurs within a
65 corporation which holds a license to operate as a motor vehicle or boat dealer pursuant to
66 sections 301.550 to 301.573 the provisions in subdivision (3) of this subsection shall not apply.

67 [7:] 8. If the owner of any motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor desires to
68 charge and collect sales tax as provided in this section, the owner shall make application to the
69 director of revenue for a permit to operate as a motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor
70 leasing company. The director of revenue shall promulgate rules and regulations determining
71 the qualifications of such a company, and the method of collection and reporting of sales tax
72 charged and collected. Such regulations shall apply only to owners of motor vehicles, trailers,
73 boats, or outboard motors, electing to qualify as motor vehicle, trailer, boat, or outboard motor
74 leasing companies under the provisions of subsection 5 of this section, and no motor vehicle
75 renting or leasing, trailer renting or leasing, or boat or outboard motor renting or leasing
76 company can come under sections 144.010, 144.020, 144.070 and 144.440 unless all motor
77 vehicles, trailers, boats, and outboard motors held for renting and leasing are included.

78 **9. Any person, company, or corporation engaged in the business of renting or**
79 **leasing ten or more motor vehicles which are to be used exclusively for rental or leasing**
80 **purposes and not for resale, and that has applied to the director of revenue for authority**
81 **to operate as a leasing company may also operate as a registered fleet owner as prescribed**
82 **in section 301.032.**

83 [8:] 10. Beginning July 1, 2010, any motor vehicle dealer licensed under section 301.560
84 engaged in the business of selling motor vehicles or trailers may apply to the director of revenue
85 for authority to collect and remit the sales tax required under this section on all motor vehicles
86 sold by the motor vehicle dealer. A motor vehicle dealer receiving authority to collect and remit
87 the tax is subject to all provisions under sections 144.010 to 144.525. Any motor vehicle dealer
88 authorized to collect and remit sales taxes on motor vehicles under this subsection shall be
89 entitled to deduct and retain an amount equal to two percent of the motor vehicle sales tax

90 pursuant to section 144.140. Any amount of the tax collected under this subsection that is
91 retained by a motor vehicle dealer pursuant to section 144.140 shall not constitute state revenue.
92 In no event shall revenues from the general revenue fund or any other state fund be utilized to
93 compensate motor vehicle dealers for their role in collecting and remitting sales taxes on motor
94 vehicles. In the event this subsection or any portion thereof is held to violate Article IV, Section
95 30(b) of the Missouri Constitution, no motor vehicle dealer shall be authorized to collect and
96 remit sales taxes on motor vehicles under this section. No motor vehicle dealer shall seek
97 compensation from the state of Missouri or its agencies if a court of competent jurisdiction
98 declares that the retention of two percent of the motor vehicle sales tax is unconstitutional and
99 orders the return of such revenues.

301.032. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 301.030 and 301.035 to the
2 contrary, the director of revenue shall establish a system of registration of all fleet vehicles
3 owned or purchased by a fleet owner registered pursuant to this section. The director of revenue
4 shall prescribe the forms for such fleet registration and the forms and procedures for the
5 registration updates prescribed in this section. Any owner of ten or more motor vehicles which
6 must be registered in accordance with this chapter may register as a fleet owner. All registered
7 fleet owners may, at their option, register all motor vehicles included in the fleet on a calendar
8 year or biennial basis pursuant to this section in lieu of the registration periods provided in
9 sections 301.030, 301.035, and 301.147. The director shall issue an identification number to
10 each registered owner of fleet vehicles.

11 2. All fleet vehicles included in the fleet of a registered fleet owner shall be registered
12 during April of the corresponding year or on a prorated basis as provided in subsection 3 of this
13 section. Fees of all vehicles in the fleet to be registered on a calendar year basis or on a biennial
14 basis shall be payable not later than the last day of April of the corresponding year, with two
15 years' fees due for biennially-registered vehicles. Notwithstanding the provisions of section
16 307.355, an application for registration of a fleet vehicle must be accompanied by a certificate
17 of inspection and approval issued no more than one hundred twenty days prior to the date of
18 application. The fees for vehicles added to the fleet which must be licensed at the time of
19 registration shall be payable at the time of registration, except that when such vehicle is licensed
20 between July first and September thirtieth the fee shall be three-fourths the annual fee, when
21 licensed between October first and December thirty-first the fee shall be one-half the annual fee
22 and when licensed on or after January first the fee shall be one-fourth the annual fee. When
23 biennial registration is sought for vehicles added to a fleet, an additional year's annual fee will
24 be added to the partial year's prorated fee.

25 3. At any time during the calendar year in which an owner of a fleet purchases or
26 otherwise acquires a vehicle which is to be added to the fleet or transfers plates to a fleet vehicle,

27 the owner shall present to the director of revenue the identification number as a fleet number and
28 may register the vehicle for the partial year as provided in subsection 2 of this section. The fleet
29 owner shall also be charged a transfer fee of two dollars for each vehicle so transferred pursuant
30 to this subsection.

31 4. Except as specifically provided in this subsection, all fleet vehicles registered pursuant
32 to this section shall be issued a special license plate which shall have the words "Fleet Vehicle"
33 in place of the words "Show-Me State" in the manner prescribed by the advisory committee
34 established in section 301.129. Alternatively, for a one-time additional five dollar per-vehicle
35 fee beyond the regular registration fee, a fleet owner of at least fifty fleet vehicles may apply for
36 fleet license plates bearing a company name or logo, the size and design thereof subject to
37 approval by the director. All fleet license plates shall be made with fully reflective material with
38 a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically
39 attractive, as prescribed by section 301.130. Fleet vehicles shall be issued multiyear license
40 plates as provided in this section which shall not require issuance of a renewal tab. Upon
41 payment of appropriate registration fees, the director of revenue shall issue a registration
42 certificate or other suitable evidence of payment of the annual or biennial fee, and such evidence
43 of payment shall be carried at all times in the vehicle for which it is issued. ~~[The director of~~
44 ~~revenue shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing the procedure for application and~~
45 ~~issuance of fleet vehicle license plates.]~~

46 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 307.350 to 307.390 to the contrary, a fleet
47 vehicle registered in Missouri is exempt from the requirements of sections 307.350 to 307.390
48 if at the time of the annual fleet registration, such fleet vehicle is situated outside the state of
49 Missouri.

50 6. **Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, any person,**
51 **company, or corporation engaged in the business of renting or leasing ten or more motor**
52 **vehicles which are to be used exclusively for rental or leasing purposes and not for resale,**
53 **that has applied to the director of revenue for authority to operate as a lease or rental**
54 **company as prescribed in section 144.070 may operate as a registered fleet owner as**
55 **prescribed in the provisions of this subsection to subsection 10 of this section.**

56 (1) **The director of revenue may issue license plates after presentment of an**
57 **application, as designed by the director, and payment of an annual fee of three hundred**
58 **sixty dollars for the first ten plates and thirty-six dollars for each additional plate. The**
59 **payment and issuance of such plates shall be in lieu of registering each motor vehicle with**
60 **the director as otherwise provided by law.**

61 (2) **Such motor vehicles within the fleet shall not be exempted from the safety**
62 **inspection and emissions inspection provisions as prescribed in chapters 307 and 643, but**

63 notwithstanding the provisions of section 307.355, such inspections shall not be required
64 to be presented to the director of revenue.

65 7. A recipient of a lease or rental company license issued by the director of revenue
66 as prescribed in section 144.070 operating as a registered fleet owner under this section
67 shall register such fleet with the director of revenue on an annual or biennial basis in lieu
68 of the individual motor vehicle registration periods as prescribed in sections 301.030,
69 301.035, and 301.147. If an applicant elects a biennial fleet registration, the annual fleet
70 license plate fees prescribed in subdivision (1) of subsection 6 of this section shall be
71 doubled. An agent fee as prescribed in subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 136.055
72 shall apply to the issuance of fleet registrations issued under subsections 6 to 10 of this
73 section, and if a biennial fleet registration is elected, the agent fee shall be collected in an
74 amount equal to the fee for two years.

75 8. Prior to the issuance of fleet license plates under subsections 6 to 10 of this
76 section, the applicant shall provide proof of insurance as required under section 303.024
77 or 303.026.

78 9. The authority of a recipient of a lease or rental company license issued by the
79 director of revenue as prescribed in section 144.070 to operate as a fleet owner as provided
80 in this section shall expire on January 1 of the licensure period.

81 10. A lease or rental company operating fleet license plates issued under subsections
82 6 to 10 of this section shall make available, upon request, to the director of revenue and all
83 Missouri law enforcement agencies any corresponding vehicle and registration information
84 that may be requested as prescribed by rule.

85 11. The director shall make all necessary rules and regulations for the
86 administration of this section and shall design all necessary forms required by this section.
87 Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created
88 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with
89 and is subject to all the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This
90 section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general
91 assembly under chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and
92 annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
93 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be invalid and
94 void.

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