SCS SB 89 - RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION

This bill requires any person, company, or corporation engaged in the business of renting or leasing motor vehicles, trailers, boats, or outboard motors, which are to be used exclusively for rental or lease purposes, and not for resale, to apply to the Director of the Department of Revenue for authority to operate as a leasing or rental company and pay an annual fee of \$250 for such authority.

Every applicant to be a lease or rental company must furnish with the application a corporate surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit issued by any state or federal financial institution in the penal sum of \$100,000, on a form approved by the department.

Any person, company, or corporation engaged in the business of renting or leasing 3,500 or more motor vehicles which are to be used exclusively for rental or leasing purposes and not for resale, and that has applied to the Director of the Department of Revenue for authority to operate as a leasing company may also operate as a registered fleet owner (Section 144.070, RSMo).

The Director of the Department of Revenue may issue license plates to a fleet owner after he or she completes an application, as designed by the director, and payment of an annual fee of \$360 for the first 10 plates and \$36 for each additional plate for fleet vehicles. The payment and issuance of such plates shall be in lieu of registering each motor vehicle with the director as otherwise provided by law. These motor vehicles will not be exempt from safety and emission inspections required by law, but these inspections will not be required to be presented to the director.

Registrations for fleets are on an annual or biannual basis. If an applicant elects a biennial registration, the annual fleet license plate fees are doubled and the agent fee is collected in an amount equal to the fee for two years.

Prior to the issuance of fleet license plates, the applicant must provide proof of insurance as required under current law.

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

A lease or rental company operating fleet license plates issued under these provisions shall make available, upon request, to the Director of the Department of Revenue and all Missouri law enforcement agencies any corresponding vehicle and registration information that may be requested as specified by the bill (Section 301.032).

This bill relates to commercial driver's licenses. This bill adds test score documents from Missouri commercial third-party tester examiners to an exemption from the prohibition against retaining certain driver's license application materials. The bill specifies that skills and written test waiver documents may be retained for commercial driver's instruction permits in addition to commercial driver's license applicants (Section 302.170).

The bill specifies that commercial driver's instruction permits shall be nonrenewable and lengthens, from six months to one year, the period for which the permits are valid. This bill increases, from \$5.00 to \$10.00, the fee for a commercial driver's instruction permit, and specifies that the fee for a duplicate shall be \$5.00. This bill also repeals a provision allowing for the issuance of a 30-day commercial driver's instruction permit. The bill specifies that applicants for a commercial driver's license shall complete an entry-level, driver-training program as required under federal law.

The Director of Revenue currently has the authority to waive the driving skills test for a commercial driver's license for qualified military applicants. This bill allows the Director of Revenue to also waive the written test, and to waive the skills and written tests for commercial driver's instruction permits. The bill repeals the list of specific requirements an applicant must certify that he or she meets, and specifies that the applicant shall meet all federal and state qualifications and shall be required to complete applicable tests that are not waived.

Beginning December 1, 2019, the Department of Revenue shall certify as a third-party tester any private education institution or other private entity, provided the necessary qualifications are met (Section 302.720).

This bill allows for the use of an electronic verification system, approved by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, to receive medical examiner's certificates for commercial driver's license issuance (Section 302.768).

This bill requires the Director of the Department of Revenue to revoke a driver's license upon notification by a law enforcement officer that an individual was involved in a motor vehicle accident where his or her negligence contributed to his or her vehicle striking a worker, utility worker, or highway worker, as defined in the bill, within a properly designated construction or work zone, or substantially contributed to his or her vehicle striking an emergency responder within a properly designated active emergency zone. The department shall base its determination of these facts on the report of the law enforcement officer investigating the incident, and its determination shall be final except as specified in the bill.

Required notice of the revocation shall be deemed received by the driver three days after mailing unless returned by the postal authorities. The notice shall clearly state the reason and statutory grounds for the revocation, the effective date of the revocation, the right to request a hearing, and the date by which the request must be made. The revocation shall be effective not sooner than 15 days from the department's order (Sections 304.580 304.585 and 304.894).

This bill modifies the inspection requirement for non-commercial motor vehicles which is currently required in order to renew a motor vehicle license. New motor vehicles after being sold will not have to have an inspection until after 10 years or the vehicle odometer reads 150,000 miles.

Currently, an untitled, homemade trailer that is 16 feet or more in length must have a certificate of inspection. This bill requires all homemade trailers to have a certificate of inspection and increases the inspection fee from \$10 to \$25. The State Highway Patrol or other authorized law enforcement agency shall issue the vehicle examination certificate. The Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol shall provide law enforcement agencies performing the inspections with the needed forms (Sections 301.020 and 307.350).